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London Bridge Terminus, October, 1874.

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THE ILLUSTRATED

Sporting and Dramatic News.

LONDON : SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1874.

The Drama.

The only dramatic event of the week, but always an important one in the theatrical calendar, took place in the opening of the regular season at the Haymarket Theatre on Saturday last, when Mr. Sothern, with the exception of a flying visit to assist at a benefit performance for a deserving benevolent institution, made his first appearance in London after three years' absence on a professional tour in America. The piece selected for the *révivit* of this popular favourite was Mr. Tom Taylor's comedy of *Our American Cousin*, almost entirely remodelled, the three acts being expanded into four, each consisting of a set scene, and much of the serious business of the plot eliminated, so as to give to the character of 'Lord Dundreary' still greater prominence than even it hitherto possessed. Mr. Sothern of course resumed his famous impersonation of 'Dundreary,' which he has still further elaborated by a variety of new and humorous business and amusing details. He was greeted with an enthusiastic welcome by a densely crowded house, and was honoured by the presence of their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, who occupied the royal box. Mr. Buckstone, who also resumed his old part of 'Asa Trenchard,' our American cousin, was likewise received with hearty cheers. The cast of characters has undergone some changes in the present revival, which will be found detailed in the full notice given in another column, but we may here mention that Miss Walton, from the Fifth Avenue Theatre, New York, who made her *début* in London, achieved a decided success by her charming acting, refined grace, and vivacity as 'Mary Meredith.'

The programmes of the other theatres have remained with scarcely an alteration from the *résumé* of them chronicled in our last week's summary, the sole changes to be noted taking place at the Gaiety and Marylebone. At the former, Offenbach's agreeable operetta, *Love Apple*, the representations of which had been temporarily suspended through Miss Monroe's illness, was restored to the programme on Thursday evening, Miss Monroe having sufficiently recovered to resume the chief rôle.—At the latter, so long and ably managed by Mr. J. A. Cave, the successful drama of *What will Become of Him?* has been preceded during the week by Mr. Clarke's powerful drama of *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*.—Another attraction has been added to the programme during the week, and has taken greatly with the *habitués* of the Marylebone, a very effective and well painted diorama of the recent explosion on the Regent's Canal, showing the scene of the calamity before and at the moment of the catastrophe. To Mr. Cave's credit it may be mentioned that the proceeds derived from the sale in the theatre of a printed description of the diorama and brief narrative of the explosion are to be devoted to the "relief fund," and from this humble source Mr. Cave expects to hand over to-day several pounds to the committee as the result of the week's experiment.

The first of the announced series of representations of the "Grecian" drama *Hand and Glove* by Mr. Conquest and his company took place at the Crystal Palace on Tuesday. The performance was repeated on Thursday, and will again take place on Tuesday and Thursday next week.

The week's lull in the theatrical world is only the calm that precedes the storm—for we are on the eve of an avalanche of dramatic events. To-night, besides the reopening of the Holborn Theatre and Holborn Amphitheatre, Mr. Rowe's drama of *The Geneva Cross*, which has already been performed for five hundred times with great success in the principal cities in the United States, will be produced for the first time in London at the Adelphi, where Madame Celeste's engagement terminated with her benefit last night. In addition to the regular Adelphi company, Miss Marie Henderson and Miss Hughes (Mrs. Gaston Murray), both specially engaged, and Mr. Sinclair, who gives up his part in *Richard Cœur-de-Lion* at Drury Lane, will appear in *The Geneva Cross*.

The Holborn Theatre reopens under the management of Mr. Morris J. Guiver, brother of Mr. James Guiver, so long connected with Drury Lane, and late lessee of the Princess's, and who will fill the post of acting manager. Messrs. Belford, Dacre Baldie, G. Vincent, Miss Carlotta Addison, Miss Maggie Brennan, and Bessie Harding, are among the company engaged. The principal piece for the opening is a new and original drama, entitled *Newmarket, a Tale of the Turf*.

The Holborn Amphitheatre opens under the lesseeship of Mr. McDonogh, with the operetta of *The Blind Beggars*, and an opéra-bouffe in three acts, entitled *Mélusine the Enchantress*, being an English version by Mr. G. M. Layton of M. Hervé's *Les Chevaliers de la Table Ronde*, one of the composer's earlier works, and which has never been previously heard in England.

On Monday Mr. Byron's new comedy, *Old Sailors*, will be produced at the Strand, in which Miss Ada Swanborough will make her first appearance this season, Miss Marion Terry her *début* at this theatre, and Mr. W. H. Vernon his reappearance.

On Tuesday reopens the Court Theatre for the fourth season, with a renewal of the closing programme of last season, viz., *Peacock's Holiday*, and Mr. H. Marshall's comedy, *Brighton*, in which Miss Litton will appear as 'Effie,' a part originally written for her, and Mr. Charles Windham resumes his original character.—On Saturday next the St. James's Theatre reopens with a new comedietta by John Oxenford and Joseph Hatton, and a new opéra-bouffe in three acts, the music by Charles Lecocq, the libretto by H. B. Farnie, entitled *The Black Prince*, supported by Mesdames Selina Dolaro, Nellie Bromley, Emily Duncan, Louise Howard, Bessie Hollingshead, Inez d'Aquilar, Linda Verner, Messrs. John L. Hall, John Rouse, C. W. Norton, J. Layton, H. Clifford, and John Chatterton, with full chorus and ballet, and a specially selected orchestra conducted by Herr Schoening.

MISS CARLOTTA ADDISON and Miss Maggie Brennan are engaged at the Holborn Theatre.

SURREY.—THIS EVENING, at 7.45, the Powerful

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On Monday next, October 23rd, Andrew Halliday's Great Drury Lane Drama, AMY ROBSART, Drury Lane Artists, Scenes and Effects.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—SECOND SATURDAY CONCERT, THIS DAY, SATURDAY.

Vocalists: Madame Sinocampobello, Miss Antoinette Sterling. Pianoforte: Herr Dr. Hans von Bülow. The Programme will include Overture, "Oberon" (Weber); Symphony in A, "Italian" (Mendelssohn); Fantaisie Hongroise, for Pianoforte and Orchestra (Liszt), first time; Berceuse (Op. 41), Valse (Op. 42), for Pianoforte (Chopin); Overture, "The Witches' Frolic" (Gadsby); first time. Conductor, Mr. MANNS. Transferable stalls for the series of concerts, Two Guineas; numbered stalls, Half a Crown.

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LONDON SEASON

this year, beg to intimate that they cannot accept any further offers. Full particulars of their coming appearance, preparations, and programme will be duly announced. Address, 27, Abbey-place, St. John's Wood. Acting Manager, Mr. J. H. STRINGER.

PAULINE VIRGINIE DÉJAZET.

SEVENTY-SEVEN years ago was born, at Paris, Pauline Virginie Déjazet, and last week she played and sang for her own benefit, realising nearly £3000. Instances have not been unfrequent of persons preserving upon the stage a rare elasticity long after they might have expected to feel the pressure of its toils, excitements, and vicissitudes; but this is, we imagine, an instance without precedent; for the lady made her first appearance just seventy-two years ago. It is not far from a quarter of a century since the writer of this sketch met Déjazet at a party in the Rue des Saints Pères, Paris, and heard her predict that on her eightieth birthday she would sing Beranger's "La Lisette." The prophecy is not quite fulfilled as yet; but the shadows of octogenarianism are already close upon her, though the performance of which we speak was probably intended to be her last. It is time that the professional curtain should fall upon that long career, which has been extended through two Imperial and one Monarchical reign and two Republics. According to all accounts, however, it was unattended by any of those painful incidents which sometimes mark and mar the disappearance of a public favourite from the scene of her younger triumphs. Déjazet did not, of course, sing as a *primadonna assoluta* in the full-throated bloom of her youth—indeed she never was a *primadonna* at all; but there was no failure; the Parisian world bestowed its most graceful benison on the aged actress; and many were the reminiscences which her farewell—if farewell it be—evoked, though few could recall her in her childish and fairy parts, her impersonations of adolescent manhood, her "Judith," "Indiana," or "young Napoleon." Yet her fame is familiar throughout all France, though her talents were appreciated nowhere else. It was in England, at any rate, that her "Richelieu," "Gentil-Bernard," "Louis XV.," "Voltaire," "Rousseau," "Bonaparte," "Garat," "Figaro," or "Conti" could be generally understood. Still, her story, though it had its chapters of disappointment, was, upon the whole, gilded brightly enough. We are not attempting a biography—only indicating a few characteristics, but may note that she was born August 30, 1797. Her *début* was made at the five years of age, in a little theatre standing near where now the Rue de la Paix dazzles the stranger's eye. The success was wonderful; oranges, plum-boxes, sweetmeats, were lavished upon the little dancer, who, through a strange caprice, positively refused to perform a single step during the three following days; they coaxed her, fed her on bread and water, shut her up in her room, whipped her even—so she herself used to say—all to no purpose, until, one evening, a gigantic grenadier, whom she always afterwards called her body-guard, took her up in his arms, and planted her peremptorily upon the stage. "But," she said, "I was not long treated in that way. Barré wanted me to play children: I, who wanted to be a princess, or a lover, I made grand resolves," she added. "I would go to no balls or suppers, I would give way to no dreams. I would wear black stockings, and work." "A great man's egotism is the world's gain," writes Emerson. Déjazet was never "great," but she was brilliant, and her vanity became amusing. One touch of nature was particularly noticeable: for sixty-five years Déjazet persevered in hating and ridiculing fair-skinned and fair-haired girls, because one had eclipsed her in dancing, singing, and acting, at Bordeaux. Yet she had no special predilections for parts demanding the possession of feminine beauty; her favourite impersonation was that of "Bonaparte," as a young man, with the glories of Areola upon him, pale, sallow, solemn, with the well-remembered uniform. In after years, the veterans of the Empire went crazy with delight over this piece of masquerade. They overwhelmed her with flowers; they wept, instead of applauding. Another peculiarity she was accustomed to tell of, laughingly, was a fondness for strutting the stage with a cigar in her mouth. Few among her contemporaries have approached her art of mimicry; even "that rat in the literary cellar" (the dramatic censor) was not offended when she aped him before all the critics, Janin and Roqueplan among them. It was she who fixed upon Boué the nickname "Champagne Butt," by her mimicry of his rolling motions. But Déjazet was rarely comic, though, in young men's parts, often ludicrously satirical. She has ever been the most graceful fairy, the most delicate "Mignon," the most imperial lady of five feet two, and the most charitable actress of Paris, besides being a most accomplished hostess in her own salons. Paris called her "the Muse of Vaudeville," and it is recorded that no piece in which she appeared was ever a total failure. Of course she had enemies, and could not overcome the pain their animadversions caused her. "An impertinence," she said, "does not offend me; it makes me ill."—"You are generally well, however," said M. Roqueplan on the evening already alluded to. "I take a Russian bath every day," she answered, "and it makes me lively as an eel, and fresh as a rose." Perhaps this was partly why Pauline Virginie Déjazet has been able, at the age of seventy-six, to sing the songs of Beranger.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.

OUR AMERICAN COUSIN.

MR. BUCKSTONE and his company having completed their annual tour in the provinces and returned to their winter quarters in the Haymarket, that favourite theatre opened for the regular season on Saturday evening. This event, always one of the most important in the dramatic year, was especially so on the present occasion, and the interest usually attending it considerably increased, through the reappearance in London, after an absence of three years in America, of Mr. Sothern, who again sustained his original and celebrated character of "Lord Dundreary" in Tom Taylor's comedy, *Our American Cousin*. Mr. Sothern, except looking slightly more robust, returns to us unchanged for his long absence, and his impersonation of the eccentric and inane nobleman is as fresh, amusing, and irresistibly droll as ever. There are again the well-known skip and stutter, the short giggle, marvellous facial play, and mental confusion in hopelessly mixing up several proverbs together and forgetting "widdles." We have also his Lordship's song which so effectively closes the first act, his eccentric manner of proposing for the hand of Georgina, and last and best of all the reading of, and accompanying ludicrous comments on, brother Sam's letter, as provocative of mirth as of old. While retaining these well-known personalities and others of the leading "Dundrearyisms," Mr. Sothern has still further elaborated his great creation by much new business and a variety of details which impart freshness to and greatly enhance the merits of the unique embodiment. Among the most amusing of the new interpolations are some grotesque perverted readings of the advertisements of a newspaper by Dundreary when slightly inebriated. The comedy itself has undergone great changes since it was last performed here; the tree acts are now expanded into four. Nearly all the serious business is either excised altogether or reduced to a minimum, so as to leave Lord Dundreary more prominent; indeed, with the exception of Asa Trenchard, the only one character in the piece, and one too that has nothing whatever to do with the plot, all the others being mere shadows. *Our American Cousin* was never but a very indifferent piece, and owes its vitality to the original genius alone of Mr. Sothern, who conceived and created out of the merest conventional

stage top one of the most highly finished, amusing, and successful characters of modern days, exaggerated caricature though it be of the type it is meant to satirise. Bad as the comedy originally was, the alteration, which converts it into a prolonged farce, has rendered it worse; and the omissions leave the plot altogether unconnected, and the motives of the characters, especially those of the tippling Abel Murcott, wholly obscure; while the changes in structure, to lessen the necessity for more frequent change of scene, are not always improvements, and cause some inconsistencies in the action—as, for example, the condensed episodes of the scene of the rascally lawyer, Richard Coyle, the counterplotting of his clerk, Abel Murcott, and his repentant and warning interview with Florence Trenchard, all take place in Sir Edward's library. In this scene also Dundreary is prepared by his valet, Buddicombe, for his nocturnal couch, which is only separated from the library by a curtain. This becomes, too, the chamber of Asa Trenchard, who here enacts the scene with Mary Meredith, when he disinterestedly burns the will, which, when last represented, took place more naturally and appropriately on the bench in front of Mary's dairy. Among the omissions in the present representation are the finding of the release of the mortgage in Coyle's private cabinet by Murcott, and the ludicrous situation where Asa Trenchard pulls the rope of the shower-bath in mistake for the bell-pull. It is probable, however, that this last omission was unintentional on Saturday evening, as the episode was evidently led up by Asa's pointedly asking the valet how he should summon him if he required him during the night, and the latter telling him, "by pulling the bell." However, these alterations and omissions are of little moment, as the whole interest and success of the representation centre in the unapproachable delineation of the eccentricities and mental perplexities of the fatuous "Lord Dundreary" by Mr. Sothern; who was received with the most enthusiastic and prolonged welcome by an eager and expectant audience, that filled every available space in the theatre, and who were kept in a continual roar of laughter from beginning to end. Mr. Buckstone who resumed his old part of "Asa Trenchard" "our American cousin" from Vermont, met also with a most cordial reception. Of the part of the tippling "Abel Murcott," formerly made so much of by Mr. Chippendale, but little is now retained, and was artistically represented by Mr. Howe, though wholly out of his line. Mr. G. Temple made his first appearance at this theatre as "Lieutenant Vernon"; Mr. Coe was his Lordship's obsequious and supercilious valet, "Budicombe," and Messrs. Braid, Rogers, and Clark resumed their old parts of "Sir Edward Trenchard," "Richard Coyle," the lawyer, and "Binney," Sir Edward's butler. Miss Walton, from the Fifth Avenue Theatre, New York, who made a very successful *début* in London as "Mary Meredith," is very pretty, bright, and intelligent, acting with charming grace, refinement, and delicate vivacity, that gained her well deserved applause, and is likely to render her a great favourite. Miss Linda Dietz, another new actress from America, agreeably personated "Georgina." The matchmaking mamma, "Mrs. Mountchessington," assigned in the programme to Mrs. Chippendale, was admirably sustained at the last moment by Mrs. E. Fitzwilliam. Miss Dalton and Miss Maria Harris, two engagements here, efficiently filled the small parts of "Florence Trenchard" and "Augusta." After the comedy, as usual on the first night of the season, the National Anthem was sung by the entire company, and the performance concluded with the late Stirling Coyne's laughable farce of *Box and Cox Married and Settled*, which has not been acted here for twenty years. Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh occupied the royal box.

MR. IRVING AS "HAMLET."

A PROSPECTIVE REVIEW.

EIGHT years to an hour from the time at which I am now writing—on the 12th of October, 1866—Mr. Henry Irving made his first appearance in London, at the St. James's, as "Dorlcourt" in *The Belle's Stratagem*; and a year later, his striking performance in Boucicault's *Hunted Down* showed all observant critics that an actor of rare and original power had arisen among us. Perhaps his most noticeable creations from that time till the production of *Two Roses* at the Vandeville were "Bob Gassit" and "Mr. Chevenix"—though his "Bill Sykes" and one or two recitations had hinted at something besides comedy and "character" parts—but it was not until Mr. Albery's clever comedy gave him a strong leading part in a successful play that the general public hailed him as the actor of most unquestionable genius of his day: a verdict which the extraordinary success of *The Belle's* triumphantly confirmed.

Later pieces have perhaps not done so much for his fame; but they have shown that he possesses a voice, yearly improving, which is capable of doing full justice to long metrical speeches, an enormous "capability of taking pains" and of deep and delicate study, and a worthy ambition which will not leave these great gifts unused.

It is this delicacy and originality of study, with the ability to express its result in the slightest tone, or action, or change of his wonderful face, united to sufficient mental and physical power, which place Mr. Irving on a higher artistic level than possibly any other actor we have; I do not say that he is absolutely the greatest actor now on the English stage, but as an original and refined artist he is without a peer. It is this ambition which leads him to attempt a part generally considered the highest and most difficult to be found in the dramatic literature of the world; and the universal interest the knowledge of his intention has awakened shows that his ambition, rash though some may think it, is not generally held to be without considerable justification.

One of the chief reasons for which many people doubt whether his "Hamlet" will be a thorough success is one which it seems strange to bring against the creator of "Digby Grant," "Mathias," "Bob Gassit," and "Charles I."—want of versatility. Mr. Irving was every one of these characters, thoroughly and absolutely: yet in every one of them the characteristics of Mr. Irving were undistinguishably prominent. In his later parts—"Eugene Aram," "Richelieu," "Philip"—this has been so noticeable that I have heard people say, "He's the same in everything": a remark too absurd for contradiction.

No doubt the greatest of all the causes which are retarding the improvement of the English stage—the system of long runs—is largely the cause of this: three hundred nights of "Digby Grant" seriously injured "Mathias," "Charles," "Richelieu," everything Mr. Irving has since played. His mannerisms are now so marked, so rooted, and so unvarying, that one has grown almost to dread the shrug of the shoulders, the long hasty stride, the curious expressive "Ha!" which reminds us we have seen the actor, if not the play, before—wonderfully as no doubt he has almost always made these characteristics harmonise with whatever part he may have been playing.

That he will get rid of them entirely in "Hamlet," we have little or no hope; that he will modify and subdue them as much as possible, we earnestly beg him—let him remember that a prince, an accomplished swordsman and courtier, bred under the eye of a noble father, described (by a love-sick maiden, it is true) as "the glass of fashion, and the mould of form," could not but have been free from angular eccentricities, must have been a gallant, stately, erect, and "proper" youth. Born a gentleman of the middle

class, Hamlet would probably have been shy and eccentric: Prince of Denmark, he was, although so young, a king all over, with every kingly accomplishment, and a flow of courtly speech—such a prince as was Goethe's ideal man, whose perfection he thought none burgher-born could approach.

Two great qualifications Mr. Irving possesses for the part—he can look young enough (*Hamlet* was apparently only an "undergrad" at Wittenberg), and he is a born, bred, and educated gentleman. The boyish "We'll teach you to drink deep, ere you depart," to Horatio, and the princely mingled courtesy and pride with Guildenstern and Rosencrantz, he may be trusted to give well and easily. More than these, his freedom from the coarse conventional stage delivery will bring home to the audience the marvellously modern tone of *Hamlet's* dialogue—if only a Prince of Wales's company that understood blank verse could support him in the play!

Then, he is a comedian as well as a tragedian, and the charming delicate "chaff" with Polonius, the wonderful enjoyment of the success of the sham madness (with what possible arguments can purblind critics have supported the theory that *Hamlet* ever really "went mad"?), the quips and retorts to the grave-digger, ought to be genuine artistic treats. How, too, will that marvellous face of his "tell" in such passages as the fierce, delighted, "What! frightened with false fire!" in the play scene; the "What?" and "O my prophetic soul! mine uncle!" in the scene with the Ghost; and, indeed, throughout the whole play. We only hope that Mr. Irving will not, like all the actors of the old conventional school, attempt to express every individual thought passing through his mind—that incessant working of eyes, eyebrows, nostrils, and lips, defeats its own object, often becomes simply funny.

There is a great chance for a great actor in the end of act i.—hysterical though *Hamlet's* high spirits seem, they are not merely a revulsion from the horror of the tale he has just heard: there is a real relief—even a happiness—in them. His overwhelming, too conscious grief at the beginning of the play is not pure sorrow for his father, not only indignation at the indecent haste of his mother's second marriage, not even the horrible shapeless doubt lurking in his "prophetic soul"—it is the sense of his utter helplessness, uselessness; the feeling that he ought to do something great, or noble, or terrible, and cannot; he is miserable at his own forced inaction and indecision, and the sudden prospect of action, however vague and fearful, is a trumpet-call to his soul—he leaps up with a high, delighted laugh, eager to plunge into action, to rid himself of the haunting fear that he is a listless, womanish, heartless dreamer: the fear that he has returned, as strong as ever, by the end of act ii. ("O, what a rogue and peasant slave am I!" &c.)

Not that he was really wanting in practical power; on board ship, in real danger, he acted acutely and decisively. "Hamlet," a fine Shakspearian critic once said to me, represents unconscious genius; and the truth lies perhaps between this and the more obvious remark that "Hamlet" is (as Thackeray's "Pendennis"), if not Shakspeare himself, Shakspeare's portrait of himself.

If Mr. Irving fails to achieve thorough success with "Hamlet," the cause will be either pure excess of mannerism (but surely such a part is worthy of an effort that should divest from one one's very self), or a capacity not altogether adequate to conceive and reproduce so great, complex, and complete a character: an enormous task, in which failure would be no disgrace, real success a triumph for the British stage of the nineteenth century.

THE NEGLECT OF OUR NATIONAL THEATRES.

IT may be gratifying to learn that now we have the Thames Embankment, Leicester Square in a decent garb, the promise of Trafalgar Square to be converted from asphalt into flowers, and some thought exists of commencing the new Courts of Law, and sundry other boons of a like nature which the Demon Smoke appears to have in part retarded, that decent approaches to our two national theatres are not altogether to be ignored in the metropolitan march of reform. It is now exactly forty years ago since the great architect, Sydney Smirke, agitated the latter question, in a comprehensive scheme which should connect the City with the East End of town, by a direct line, as "one of the most obvious improvements that even a cursory glance at the map of London makes clear and expedient." Even in 1834, Smirke, in one of his lectures, said:—"The opening of a free passage on this line of communication has been a measure frequently urged, and it may fairly be supposed that no one will be found to deny the great convenience which would result from it to the public." The opening up the West End with the City has been done since Smirke's time to a great extent, but it has not been done as Smirke suggested, to include the area around our national theatres, Covent Garden and Drury Lane.

"If this alteration were effected," he remarked, "an easy and straight avenue would be opened from Piccadilly to the market and to the theatres, which are now only accessible by the most circuitous and inconvenient routes. It will, of course, be considered very desirable to equalise the width of New Street and King Street. Having reached the two great theatres by the new track, it becomes a matter of very urgent importance to effect some improvement in the vicinity of those splendid establishments. The proposition now to be made is to form a large space, somewhat in the shape of a quadrant, of which the two straight sides or radii would be the two theatres, and the curve would be a handsome range of houses, having a covered colonnade in front. The area thus cleared would be highly convenient for the reception of the crowd of carriages which are nightly collected round these two buildings, and it would essentially aid their architectural character and effect. The façades of both suffer much from the pressure and contiguity of the surrounding houses. That of Covent Garden, unquestionably the first pure example of the Greek Doric style erected in London, has on this account never been adequately seen. There is, indeed, no style that so much requires the accompaniment of space as the Greek Doric; for the perfect symmetry of all its parts, which is one of the principal charms of this style, is utterly lost to the eye, by the distorting effect of perspective, when the point of sight is to near the object."

Leigh Hunt, at the time writing upon this suggestion, said:—"It is probable that any measure that would diminish the alarming and even dangerous confusion now attendant on the simultaneous departure of some thousands of persons from the two great theatres would operate favourably to the interests of their proprietors."

Those who will compare the maps of London of 1834 with those of the present day will not fail to perceive that, while extensions and improvements have gone on everywhere else, the district around the two theatres has stood almost stagnant. It is only now, it would seem, that the concession can be no longer delayed—the "neighbourhood existing as a maggot in the ripening kernel" of London, a disgrace and scandal to the metropolis—that Melpomene and Thalia are to receive this long procrastinated attention, a great and comprehensive scheme for the distribution of the said thoroughfares being under review. We, therefore, give an abstract of the opinions of some authority in 1834, of the desirability of such a measure, for the benefit of those concerned in 1874.

GREVILLE F.



PAULINE VIRGINIE DÉJAZET.



SCENE FROM "BLUE BEARD" AT THE CHARING CROSS THEATRE.

© HARRISON

"BLUE BEARD" AT CHARING CROSS THEATRE.

APART from the brilliancy of *Blue Beard*, not a little of which is owing to Mr. Maltby's really beautiful scenery, the piece is singularly interesting and artistic. It is seldom one finds a burlesque of such slight texture with good acting parts like those which are realized by Miss Lydia Thompson and Messrs. Edouin and Lionel Brough, or how admirably those who have left the theatre suffering from aching sides well know. In Miss Thompson's most exuberant bursts of humour she never forgets to be refined. The fun is unflagging and laughter-provoking, but it never offends the canons of good taste. Town is gradually awaking to a sense of the rare qualities of Mr. Edouin's "Heathen Chinee"—a creation that is simply imitable; and Mr. Brough, who is always good, appears determined to make "Blue Beard" one of his best parts. The "Heathen Chinee" scene, which we give on another page, is one of the most effective in the piece.

Music.

Music intended for notice in the "Monthly Review of New Music," on the last Saturday of each month, must be sent on or before the previous Saturday.

Benefit Concerts will not (as a rule) be noticed, unless previously advertised in our columns.

CRYSTAL PALACE CONCERTS.

ON Saturday last these delightful entertainments were recommenced; and for six months to come the lovers of high-class music will have opportunities of hearing, every week, the best works of the great masters interpreted in the most admirable manner. It is not, however, to be supposed that the music provided at the Crystal Palace Saturday Concerts will uniformly consist of "classical" music, which to some persons would appear rather repellent than attractive, unless relieved by an admixture of lighter compositions. Modern music will be copiously illustrated by selections from contemporary writers, and rising composers will have a hearing. Thus, on Saturday last, a new overture by Richard Wagner was played for the first time in England, and at the concert to be given to-day an overture by Mr. Henry Gadsby will form part of the programme. The opening concert of the season, given on Saturday last, may be deemed a fair specimen of the quality of these concerts. It contained the following eight pieces:—Overture in C (Op. 24), Mendelssohn; Recitative and Air, "The Full Moon is Beaming," H. Smart; Concerto in F Minor, for Pianoforte, with Orchestra, Sir W. S. Bennett; Offertorium, "Confirma Hoc Deus," Neukomm; Symphony No. 2, in D (Op. 36), Beethoven; Song, "The Garland," Mendelssohn; Song, "The Erl King," Schubert; A Faust Overture, R. Wagner. Conductor, Mr. A. Manns.

The "Mendelssohn Overture," with which the concert commenced, was one of the great composer's earliest works; written when he was quite a boy, for the small orchestra of a provincial town in Germany. It was afterwards amplified by him, and arranged for a military band, and it was his intention to rewrite it for a full orchestra. Mr. Manns, the able conductor of the Crystal Palace orchestra, has fitted the overture for performance at the Saturday Concerts, by arranging it for full band. On principle, we have always objected to any tampering with the great works of deceased composers, and it would perhaps have been better to leave the work as it was left by Mendelssohn. Still, it must be admitted that Mr. Manns has approached his task in a reverent spirit, and has endeavoured to infuse the general character of Mendelssohn's orchestration into the extra stringed parts which he has supplied. It is also clear that without some such adaptation the overture could not have been produced at the Crystal Palace Concerts, and the cordial reception given to it on Saturday last may be pleaded as an excuse for its production in its present shape. Whether the instrumentation is such as Mendelssohn would have employed may be doubted; but it reflected great credit on the technical ability of Mr. Manns, and as "nothing succeeds like success," he may feel some pride at the hearty applause with which the work was greeted. The bright and genial No. 2 Beethoven Symphony was exquisitely played. It has not been performed here since 1872, the memorable year when the whole of Beethoven's nine symphonies were included in the programme of the Crystal Palace concert season. If any portion of the uniformly excellent performance of this work on Saturday last may be selected for special mention, it is the "Scherzo" of the third movement. Each instrumentalist played *con amore*; and the *ensemble* playing was like the playing of one man. What a Scherzo it is! Full of masterly devices, subtle harmonies, bold modulations, it commands the admiration of all who can appreciate the handiwork of a master; while its captivating melodies and its wealth of humour delight every listener who possesses a musical ear and a sense of musical fun. Sir Sterndale Bennett's F Minor Concerto for Pianoforte and Orchestra is one of the finest works of this great composer. It was first played by him in public at the Philharmonic Concert of June 18, 1838, and he afterwards played it twice at the Gewandhaus Concerts in Leipzig. It is best known to the present generation through its performances by Madame Arabella Goddard, whose transcendent abilities have seldom been more conspicuously displayed than in her interpretations of this and other works by our "English Mendelssohn." The pianist on this occasion was Mr. Franklin Taylor, one of the ablest and most conscientious performers of the present day. With powers of execution which might be envied by many a "virtuoso," he never aimed at self-display; but with the score before him devoted himself solely to the task of interpreting his author. In the first movement ("Allegro con maesta") his brilliant rendering of the bravura passages was no less praiseworthy than the manner in which he "sang" the cantabile melody. The charming effect of the concluding double passage for pianoforte and flute was enhanced by the excellent flute playing of Mr. Wells. The second movement is one of the most delicious barcaroles ever written for the pianoforte, and was well played by Mr. Taylor, especially the elegant *gruppetti* which follow the melody. The concluding movement ("Presto agitato") enabled Mr. Taylor to exhibit to advantage his mastery of executive difficulties, and he thoroughly merited the applause and the recall which he obtained.

Wagner's "Faust Overture" is not, as might be supposed, an orchestral prelude to an opera, but is intended to be a musical representation of Goethe's "Faust" when tired of existence, and longing for death. At a time when loud outcries are made against the so-called "prejudice" which is said to exist in England against the works of Richard Wagner, it is important that, when a new work from his pen is produced for the first time amongst us, it should be well and carefully played, and dispassionately judged. The first of these conditions was fulfilled by the excellent playing of the Crystal Palace band; the second was not wanting; and of all those who had to criticise the work, and estimate its value, the majority would have been sincerely glad to find occasion for praise. They were doomed to disappointment. The overture exhibited the defects of Wagner's latest style, in an exaggerated degree. There were gloomy passages which led to nothing; frenzied *fortissimi* which were without a climax—sudden changes of key—commonplace phrases of eight or a dozen bars, suggesting what proved to be fallacious hopes of sustained melody—and a want of that coherence and

symmetry which had been just before exhibited in the No. 2 Symphony of Beethoven. If it be urged that it is unfair to put Wagner into competition with Beethoven, it must be pointed out that Wagner's admirers are not of that opinion. He is, according to Herr von Bülow, "one of the few legitimate heirs and successors of the incarnate music-deity, Beethoven!" and the opening of his "Faust Overture" is classed by "G." the able but impetuous programme analyst of the Crystal Palace, in the same category with the openings of Beethoven's Leonora Nos. 2 and 3; Schumann's Genoveva and Manfred, and Mendelssohn's Scotch Symphony! To talk of such works as the Leonora No. 3, and the Scotch Symphony, in the same breath with so abortive and cacophonous a work as Wagner's "Faust Overture," is musical blasphemy. "G." goes on to say, "How far Wagner's overture can maintain its equality with those great works, it will be for a thoughtful audience to decide." The thoughtful audience on Saturday last sat very thoughtfully through the first half of the overture and then decided, by an overwhelming majority, to get away from the noise as soon as possible; so that before the conclusion of the work, the concert-room was almost deserted. The few who remained found no compensation for their detention. That Wagner could elicit storms of noise from an orchestra, they knew already, and their ears could not be consoled by his new instrumental devices, such, for instance, as his ear-piercing combinations of oboe and clarinet in what his admiring commentator accurately describes as "poignant cries." It is beside the question to plead that the music accurately illustrates Faust's mental condition; and that its incoherence must therefore be excused. It is as music that it is submitted to criticism. It may possibly do for the illustration of lunacy, or chaos, or fifty other unpleasant things; but it is deficient in almost all the qualities which belong to really good music.

The vocal music found competent interpreters. Mr. Santley showed his facile vocalisation in Neukomm's offertory, and gained a recall, followed by an encore, for his rendering of the "Erl King." Mr. Lloyd, whose steady progress is remarkable, sang with true artistic feeling in the songs by Smart and Mendelssohn, securing a hearty encore for the "Garland." He can hardly be excused, however, for the liberty he takes with his illustrious author in the passage leading from the line "Some drops of dew should fall from thee," to the next line, "Tell her they are not drops of night." For the sake of placing the musical emphasis on the word "Tell" instead of on "her," he alters the melody, and makes on the word "thee" a slur from G sharp to E, which is unpleasant to hear, besides being contrary to the composer's intention. Mr. Manns, who was received with rounds of cheers when he first took his seat at the conductor's desk, conducted with great ability and untiring zeal.

At to-day's concert, Madame Campobello-Sinico and Miss Stirling will sing, and Her von Bülow will play. The "Italian" Symphony of Mendelssohn; Liszt's "Fantaisie Hongroise," for pianoforte and orchestra, and an overture entitled "The Witches' Frolic," by Mr. H. Gadsby, with other interesting works, will be performed.

THE Covent Garden Promenade Concerts are as crowded as ever. A successful appearance has been made by Mdlle. Franchino, said to be "from the Grand Opéra, Paris." She has a good voice, sings with dramatic feeling, and fluent though not quite finished execution. Her singing would be much more agreeable if she were to discard the extraordinary gestures which she at present employs. Mr. Pearson continues to elicit the plaudits of the public, and a successful appearance has recently been made by another well-known and able tenor, Mr. Wilford Morgan. Mr. Levy (cornet-a-piston), Mr. Young (flute), Mr. Wootton (bassoon), Mr. Hughes (ophicleide), and Mr. Burnett (first violin), make great successes in the solos which fall to their share, and Mr. Viotti Collins, Mr. Lazarus, and Mr. Winterbottom, have occasionally appeared. Madame Lemmens-Sherington will appear on Monday next, Madame Campobello-Sinico on Monday, Oct. 26, and Miss Rose Hersee, Monday, Nov. 9. M. Hervé has conducted with great ability, assisted usually, on Wednesdays by Sir Julius Benedict.

AT the Agricultural Hall, Islington, promenade concerts are now given nightly, and it is proposed to give them for four weeks altogether. A band, of which the brass is in too great preponderance, is conducted very creditably by Mr. C. P. Manns; vocal music is rendered by Miss Susanna Cole, Miss Fanny Huddart, Mr. Gaynor, Signor Alma, the eight Russian vocalists, and other artists. The hall is decidedly too large for vocal solos, and the visitors are made uncomfortable by the free permission given to smokers to light vesuvians and smoke clay pipes. This should be reformed.

MESSRS. NOVELLO have issued a preliminary announcement of their ensuing series of concerts, to be given every night during the winter season, commencing November 7, at the Royal Albert Hall. On Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, Mr. Barnby will conduct; on Tuesdays, Mr. J. F. Barnett; on Fridays, Mr. Dannreuther. The analytical programmes, when required, will be prepared by Mr. Joseph Bennett. A preliminary list of artists already engaged has been issued, and the prospectus shows that Messrs. Novello have not entered on this great undertaking without due reflection.

THE British Orchestral Society have commissioned Mr. Henry Gadsby to write an "Intermezzo and Scherzo" for their ensuing season.

MISS ROSE HERSEE left Dublin on Wednesday last, for Manchester, where she is announced to appear on Tuesday next, for the first time since her recent severe illness, as "Arline" in *The Bohemian Girl*, in conjunction with the Carl Rosa Opera Company.

WE have reason to believe that there is no foundation whatever for the report that Mr. Arthur Chappell intends to give Wednesday Orchestral Concerts at St. James's Hall. His Monday Popular Concerts will re-commence November 9.

THE National Music Meetings will be resumed next June at the Crystal Palace. Intending competitors should communicate with Mr. Wilbert Beale, at the palace.

AN unfortunate accident last week befell Mr. Walter Fisher and Mr. Garden, of the Islington Philharmonic Theatre, both gentlemen having fallen through a stage-trap. Mr. Garden's part in *Girofle-Girofia* has since been played by Mr. Murray, and on Saturday last Mr. Fisher's part was played at four hours' notice by Miss Jenny Pratt, who obtained encores for two of the songs. Mr. Fisher has this week played "Maraschino" with the wound on his face covered with strapping, and so "made up" as to be scarcely visible.

HERR VON BÜLOW announces two pianoforte recitals at St. James's Hall, Saturdays, October 31 and November 7.

MR. CLINTON has been selected to fill the place of M. Pape, for many years principal clarinet in the Crystal Palace orchestra.

MADAME ARABELLA GODDARD has arranged to extend after successful tour, and is not likely to be in England until her next year. The more the pity!

Provincial.

BRIGHTON.—**THEATRE ROYAL.**—*La Fille de Madame Angot* continues to attract well filled houses. The "Conspirators' Chorus" was redemanded several times on Monday, and at the termination of the opera the performers were summoned by the delighted spectators. Offenbach's *Rose of Auvergne* preceded, and was well represented. Herr Aldebert Frikell and his concert company are doing admirably in the Grand Concert Hall.

MR. H. NYE CHART and the Brighton dramatic company have met with immense success this week in the Music Hall, Hastings, where they have been located for a brief period. Mr. Barry Sullivan, Mr. Charles Mathews, Mrs. John Wood, Mr. Sims Reeves and ballad opera party, and Mr. J. H. Mapleton's Italian opera troupe are already engaged to appear in succession at the Brighton Theatre, and a splendid holiday pantomime on popular subject is in preparation; *on dit* that Mr. Frank W. Green will supply the revised libretto and the words of the songs.

BRISTOL.—**THEATRE ROYAL.**—During the past fortnight the principal attraction here has been the representation by the regular company of an extremely sensational drama called *The Old Toll-House*, which was, I believe, originally produced at the Marylebone. Mr. G. S. Titheradge as a rather frail hero, deserves commendation for so naturally playing a part of such a different kind to those in which he has previously appeared, and there is a praiseworthy absence of exaggeration observable throughout the company.

THE OLD THEATRE.—The King Street house, after a thorough renovation, is again open, and once more a Madame Angot company obtains local favour. Our present visitors are styled "The Metropolitan Opéra-Bouffé Combination." Their version is not Farnie's, nor is it anything like so good, and previous visits of Pattie Laverne and M. Loredan, suggest comparisons unfavourable to the new comers. Miss Annie Howard is a very fair "Lange."

THE CIRCUS.—Messrs. Sanger's Circus at the Rifle Drill Hall is thoroughly established as a popular place of resort, and constant changes in the programme cause a continuation of crowded houses.

COLSTON HALL.—Mr. George Risely, the talented and popular organist to the Colston Hall company, has re-commenced his Saturday evening organ recitals, and the attendance proves the entertainment to be in permanent favour with Bristolians.

CORK.—**THEATRE ROYAL** (proprietor, Mr. R. C. Burke).—Last week, Mr. Harry Jackson gave his clever entertainment, entitled "Heads of the People," to crowded and delighted audiences.

MUNSTER HALL (proprietors, Messrs. MacCarthy and Scanlan).—On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, the 12th, 13th, and 14th inst., Mr. J. P. Clarke, the popular composer and conductor, gave three grand promenade concerts, at which the band of the Royal Irish Constabulary appeared. This splendid corps of musicians, over forty in number, are immensely popular in Cork, and their visits are always hailed with delight by the music-loving public. Mr. Clarke may certainly be congratulated on the high state of efficiency to which he has by his careful and clever training brought this really fine band.

EDINBURGH.—**THEATRE ROYAL** (lessee, Mr. R. H. Wyndham).—After an absence of several years, Miss Bateman began on Monday evening her six nights' engagement with *Leah*. Mr. John Clayton scarcely realised our ideal of the weak "Rudolf," while the unenviable part of "Madelina" was very fairly rendered by Miss Virginie Francis, whose acting would be the better for a little more animation. Mr. Parry has never appeared to more advantage than in his "Father Hermann"; while Mr. Vincent's "Nathan" called for decided praise. During the week Miss Bateman has also appeared in *The Lady of Lyons* and *Macbeth*, *Medea* being selected for her benefit, which drew a large audience to witness one of the most magnificent performances we have seen for many years. Charles Mathews occupies the boards for the next eleven nights.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE (lessee, Mr. A. D. McNeill).—That M. Lecocq's sparkling and catching music still finds favour in Edinburgh, is proved by the large audiences attracted by *The Green Isle of the Sea* (*Les Cent Vierges*), which continues to run a successful course at this house.

OPERETTA HOUSE (lessee, Mr. C. Bernard).—The Rousbys have given place to Mr. C. Durand's English opera company, who "opened the ball" on Monday evening with a capital performance of Vincent Wallace's ever fresh *Maritana*, an opera which has always been a favourite with Edinburgh playgoers. Mr. W. Parkinson, to whom the part of "Don Cesar de Bazan" was allotted, contributed his full share, musically and dramatically, to the excellence of the performance. He is an energetic actor, has a strong, pure, useful voice, and sings with expression and taste. As "Don José," Mr. Charles Durand sang and acted with considerable power and fervour, and was thoroughly well up to the requirements of his part. In Madame Tonnelier, who sustained the rôle of "Maritana," Mr. Durand has secured a vocalist of a very high order. Madame Tonnelier has a most graceful and natural manner, taste, and appropriateness in gesture, very considerable dramatic power, and a voice of splendid quality. Two nights have also been devoted to Auber's *Fra Diavolo*, with Mdlle. Mariani as "Zerlina," in which she achieved an unqualified success. For Friday and Saturday evenings we are promised Balfe's *Bohemian Girl*, which has not been heard for some time in Edinburgh.

EXETER.—**THEATRE ROYAL** (lessee, Mr. Neobe).—In consequence of its great success, *Dolly's Diversion* ran until Saturday, when *The Green Bushes* was substituted, with Miss Leicester as "Miami." The burlesque of *Little Don Giovanni* was also played during the week, and went much better than on the opening night. On Monday, Tom Taylor's clever comedy, *New Men and Old Acres*, was produced, and Mr. J. H. Porter made his first appearance as the hero, "Brown." Mr. Cumberland was very amusing as the *parvenu*, "Bunter"; and Mr. Murray played the henpecked husband, "Mr. Vavaseur," with great effect. Nor must the "Blasenberg" of Mr. Valentine be forgotten, as it was one of the cleverest performances of the evening. Mrs. Sennett is not quite refined enough for such parts as "Lady Vavaseur"; but Miss Leicester was just suited for the part of "Lillian," which she played most charmingly. The comedy was followed by a dance by the *corps de ballet*, and the farce of *Peggy Green* concluded, the principal characters being well supported by Miss Barrier and Mr. Honey.

HULL.—**THEATRE ROYAL** (Mr. Sefton Parry, manager and proprietor).—This week two pieces have been presented to us, *The Yorkshire Lass*, and *The Ticket of Leave Man*, with an after-piece, entitled *Tom Trunnon*, described as a nautical drama, because the hero is a British (stage) tar, while the plot is laid in a Brazilian slave plantation. *The Yorkshire Lass* affords opportunities for some telling local scenery and allusions. *The Ticket of Leave Man* always proves an attractive piece, and the different parts were well sustained by the company, that of "Robert Brierly" being taken by Mr. G. F. Leicester. Mr. Bernard makes up capitally as "Downey," and Mr. Ashby plays the detective "Hawkhaw," with much effect. Messrs. Blakeley and George are as funny as usual in "Melter Moss" and "Green Jones." The part of the heroine, "May Edwards," was charmingly played by Miss Bickerstaffe.

LEICESTER.—**THEATRE ROYAL** (lessee and manager, Mr. Elliot Galer).—The comic opera entitled *John of Paris* has been presented here this week, and placed on the stage with great care and excellence. Indeed, the illuminated garden scene was very beautiful, and evoked loud enthusiasm. Mr. and Mrs. Galer, who have played in it many nights in town, appeared for the first time this season, and, as old favourites, received the usual recognition. The uncommon, though delightful, music received full effect from both. Miss Theresa Cummings and Mr. R. Cummings (from Mrs. Liston's Angot company) are included in the cast, and both sing very well. The dialogue seemed to us in the first act too much taken up with Potts and the dinner, but we often have to sacrifice language for music in opera. The band, under Mr. Bartle's direction, executed the instrumental music well, and the overture was unexceptionably played. The house was sufficiently good to justify a repetition of the opera; and we observe that three nights have been set apart for it, the holiday people to the fair having had on alternate evenings an opportunity of seeing tragedy, drama, and farce.

LIVERPOOL.—**ALEXANDRA THEATRE.**—The annual visit of Mr. Mapleton's opera troupe has been the great feature of the week. Besides the old favourites, of whom Titiens and Trebelli-Bettini remain the chief, he has introduced, for the first time here, Mdlle.

Risarelli and Mlle. Louise Singelli, in Auber's *Catarina*, the Italian version of *Les Diamants de la Couronne*. The programme for the first week of the two brief seasons has been as follows:—*Lucrezia Borgia*, *Catarina*, *Faust*, *Il Talismano*, *Don Giovanni*, and *Martha*. The first-named, with Campanini, Titiens, Agnesi, and Trebelli-Bettini, in the cast went splendidly. The attendance has not been quite as large as on the previous occasions, owing to the local reaction after the Musical Festival, but Balfe's posthumous opera proved strongly attractive, it being played with the ceremonial so strongly objected to by Cardinal Cullen here restored. The several operas named have been given with scarcely any modification of the Drury Lane casts, so that detailed review is superfluous. The programme for next week includes *Il Trovatore*, *Il Flauto Magico*, *Il Talismano*, *La Sonnambula*, *Le Nozze*, and *Fidelio*. Madame Titiens has generally been in the best of voice, but Signor Campauini on Monday night was not in excellent trim. The powers of execution possessed by Mlle. Singelli created a very favourable impression indeed.

ROYAL AMPHITHEATRE.—*Clancarty* has drawn very good houses, the cast of Mr. R. Younge's company being fairly equal to the demands of the play. A legitimate sensation has been created by the powerfully passionate acting of Miss Louise Willes, who as 'Lady Clancarty' displays, at the end of the third act, an emotional power that quite startles the audience by its intensity and truth to nature. This young actress has been the leading favourite in the company, and, apparently, only needs strong material to develop into a really great artist. Mrs. Hermann Vezin returns here with *Cora* on Monday.

THEATRE ROYAL.—A change of programme here has included the revival of *The Courier of Lyons*, well played and put upon the stage in every way efficiently. Mr. E. Price and Mr. J. K. Walton have been the most prominent member of the cast. The entertainments have nightly included *Caught in the Toils*, *The Irish Tutor*, and the lively ballet of *Love in All Corners*.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.—*The Old Story* and the burlesque of *The Field of the Cloth of Gold* have been played a second week to moderately good business.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—The burlesque of *Pygmalion*, presented by Miss Jenny Willmore's comedy company, has been given here a second week, but has been preceded by *Handy Andy*. The attendances have not been large.

At the St. James's Hall, Hague's Minstrels; at the Queen's Hall, the Female Christy Minstrels, and at the Concert Hall, the Sisters Sophia and Annie, have been the attractions.

LYNN.—**THEATRE ROYAL** (lessee, Mr. J. F. Young.)—This pretty little theatre is occupied this week by the established favourites constituting Mr. Henry Haigh's English Opera Company, who have succeeded in attracting very good houses. The absence of orchestral accompaniment is a drawback, but otherwise the production of the various operas has left little to be desired. The company comprised Madame Haigh-Dyer, Mlle. Adele Alessandri, Miss Marie Burdett, Miss La Fontaine, and Messrs. Henry Haigh, Henry Rowland, M. Bentley, T. J. Montelli, and H. Cecil Beryl. On Monday evening Balfe's *Bohemian Girl* was produced. 'Thaddeus' (a proscribed Pole) was admirably performed by Mr. H. Haigh. The acting of H. Rowland as 'Count Arnheim,' and his singing of 'The heart bowed down,' were excellent. The 'Gipsy Queen' of Mlle. Alessandri was enacted with great spirit throughout. She has a capital voice, which she knows how to use with effect. The character of 'Arline' by Madame Haigh-Dyer was impersonated in a very spirited style. The performances concluded with the farce of the *Loan of a Lover*. On Tuesday evening the performances commenced with Bellini's *La Sonnambula*, and in this Mr. Haigh and Madame Haigh-Dyer exhibited such skill and taste as to merit the continued applause of the audience. The duet, 'Love's fond dream,' and the 'Still so gently,' of the tenor, were excellently rendered. Mr. H. Rowland acted and sang in a most creditable manner, and Mlle. Alessandri, as 'Liza,' displayed herself to great advantage. The cast was as follows:—'Amina,' Madame Haigh-Dyer; 'Dame Teresa,' Miss M. Burdett; 'Liza,' Mlle. Adele Alessandri; 'Elvino,' Mr. Henry Haigh; 'Alessio,' Mr. M. Bentley; 'Notary,' M. Montelli; 'Count Rodolpho,' Mr. Rowland. The after-piece was the *Swiss Cottage*. On Wednesday evening Verdi's *Il Trovatore* was brought before the audience, and concluded with the *Household Fairy*.

PLYMOUTH.—**THEATRE ROYAL.**—Mr. Newcombe has made a welcome addition to his company, by the temporary engagement of Miss Marie Rhodes, of London celebrity. The lady made her first appearance on Monday last in the burlesque of *The Field of the Cloth of Gold*. The piece was preceded by the three act drama, written by the late J. Stirling Coyne, and completed by his son, J. Denis Coyne, entitled *The Home Wreck*. Little however can be said in favour of the production. *The Field of the Cloth of Gold*, although minus many good puns, or much wit, is certainly funny. Miss Marie Rhodes as 'Earl Darnley' was the chief attraction; she possesses a good voice, and her songs have been enthusiastically received.

SHEFFIELD.—**THEATRE ROYAL.**—Since this theatre came under the management of Mr. Sefton, the public have been catered for in an admirable manner. This week Mr. Carl Rosa's opera company have again occupied the boards with continued success. *Satanella*, *The Lily of Killarney*, *Fra Diavolo*, *La Sonnambula*, and *Faust*, have formed the week's programme, and have each been rendered in magnificent style. The ensemble of the chorus is excellent, and the orchestra under the direction of Mr. Sydney Naylor, unexceptionally good. The principal artists are well-known in the musical world, and include Miss Blanche Cole, Miss Annie Sinclair, Miss Lucy Franklin, Madame Vaneri, and Miss Alice Arden; Messrs. Henry Nordblom, Celli, J. W. Turner, Aynsley Cooke, and G. F. Marler. The engagement has so far been one of the most important of the season.

THE ALEXANDRA.—The drama of *The Mashed Mother* has been played here this week with great success, but the principal attraction is Mlle. Mathilde, Flo' and Orion, a troupe of acrobats, who gave a clever entertainment, which is greeted with rounds of applause, as also is the singing and dancing of Miss Florence Milton. The performance concludes with the farce of *Sarah's Young Man*.

Mr. Rowe's new play, *The Geneva Cross*, will be produced this evening at the Adelphi.

THEIR Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh honoured the Haymarket Theatre with their presence on the opening night of the season on Saturday last.

Mr. BYRON's new comedy, *Old Sailors*, will be produced at the Strand on Monday next, in which Miss Ada Swanborough will make her first appearance this season, Miss Marion Taylor her debut, and Mr. W. H. Vernon his reappearance.

The Court Theatre reopens on Tuesday, with the programme of last season, viz., *Peacock's Holiday* and Mr. F. Marshall's comedy, *Brighton*. In the latter, Miss Litton will sustain the part of 'Effie,' originally written for her.

Mr. CHATTERTON has organised three morning performances at the three theatres under his management, in aid of the Hospital Saturday Fund: to-day, *Richard Cœur-de-Lion*, at Drury Lane; on Wednesday next, *The Geneva Cross*, at the Adelphi, and on Saturday next, *Lost in London*, at the Princess's.

Both the Holborn Theatre and the Royal Amphitheatre reopen this evening, the former with a sporting drama, entitled *Newmarket, a Tale of the Turf*, and the latter with an opéra-bouffe, entitled *Mélusine the Enchantress*, an English version of Hervé's *Les Chevaliers de la Table Ronde*.

LORD WILLIAM LENNOX gave a lecture at Ulverstone last evening, subject "Wellington," to a large audience, the Rev. Dr. Hayman in the chair. His Lordship gave the same lecture at Clevedon and Weston-super-Mare last week. It embodies not only the military triumphs of the Iron Duke, but his social qualities.

The St. James's reopens on Saturday next, with a new comedy-bouffe by John Oxenford and Joseph Hatton, and a new comedy-bouffe, in three acts, music by Lecocq, the libretto by H. B. Farnie, entitled *The Black Prince*, supported in the principal characters by Miss Selina Dolaro, Miss Nelly Bromley, Bessie Hollingshead, John Rouse, John Chatterton, &c.

DRAMATIC TENDENCIES AND INFLUENCES.

To the Editor of THE ILLUSTRATED SPORTING AND DRAMATIC NEWS.

"Our stage-play has a moral, and no doubt
You all have sense enough to find it out."—GAY.

SIR,—A great deal has been said and written respecting the stage—its elevating *versus* its deteriorating effects upon the morals of mankind. Preachers, essayists of all descriptions, platform perambulators, old ladies, and others, have inveighed in good set terms against the indecencies of performances, the private lives (full of immorality, of course!) of the performers. A long train of white-robed creatures have lifted up their pious eyes and exorcised the stage. The tinsel, the gaudy frippery, the Epicurean votaries of art, the well-shaped and fascinating actresses, have all had their share of virulent abuse, and the representatives of religion, clothed in all the odour of sanctity, have launched anathemas at the innocent players—innocent in this sense that they have not the slightest knowledge of the anathemas in question, or, if they have, are not sensibly affected thereby. Were we, however, to listen to these preachers, who fain would purify the world at large in their own peculiar fashion, we should entertain very false notions of the stage. It is only by intimately connecting ourselves with it that we can form any knowledge of its mysteries, for there is a certain mystery in every profession or trade, whether it is that in which the operator uses a saw or a file, or that in which all the physical and mental graces are combined to produce effects worthy of the combination. "A little knowledge is a dangerous thing" has been often quoted, and in theatrical matters, perhaps more than any other, is this evidenced. Your "swell," for instance, who professes to know so much, and to be so intently amorous of the mysteries of the profession, does more real damage to the reputation of the stage than hundreds of people who never profess to pass beyond the "curtain," and, when they have seen the play, toddle home with their wives and families, sympathising with the weak and innocent, and thoroughly hating the villain of the piece. Little does it enter into their speculations that an astute playwright has set the machine in motion, and that the machinists have no more interest in the characters they assume than the Lord Chamberlain! But rise one tier, and its occupants are clever with alternate *ennui* and acquaintance with a few ballet girls! And what is the result? Incorrect ideas get abroad, especially amongst what are called the "Upper Ten!" As for the "Roughs," they care little for the mysteries; give them the play, the unadulterated, genuine article, with a pot of beer and a pipe of "bacca," and they are satisfied, for, beyond chumming on with the stage-door functionary at the "pub" round the corner, their acquaintance with the initiated is rare. What then are the tendencies and influences of the drama, taken in its broadest sense, by which is included the whole range of histrionic representations? Take the English stage, for example as to purity, and what are its tendencies but to exalt the human intellect by not only attracting it to the pictures of "poetical justice," but by drawing it away from scenes of dissipation and folly. The stage amuses whilst it instructs, excites by emotion rather than by false and equivocal means, and by every imaginable device seeks to enlist admiration and interest by purely legitimate agents for purely legitimate purposes. All that art and learning can do to originate a combination of grace, beauty, and harmony, is done, and music, bringing in its train the soothing charms so intimately interwoven with it, swells the measure of joy, and considerably enhances the refinement of the combination. There can be no doubt that the rage for amateurs which has been so rampant during the last few years has done much to render the drama weaker in its influences on society, for, of course, every amateur knows considerably more about the stage than anybody else, and becomes a perfect bore, except to his lady-friends and those who have never ventured behind the footlights, and who therefore listen to him in breathless awe! But, independently of this, the general public appreciate the stage more and more, indeed, the increase in the number of theatres all over the country, and London in particular, being in proportional advance of the increase of population. Authors are driven mad nearly by the quantity of material demanded, actors and actresses full of engagements, and scenic artists, machinists, and property men, in full and constant work. The metropolis rings daily with the airs from this or that opera, conversation is rife on the subject of the most recent productions, and this in the commercial, legal, fashionable circles of all kinds and classes. And this is the mode in which the theatre is gaining ground with English society; and although, in many cases, the pieces produced are not of that class in which the reward of the virtuous and the punishment of the vicious are pre-eminent, who dare say that their production is demoralising because they do not stick to the old *régime*, and follow out the moral of the play in the quaint old style of our grandfathers? We have the music, painting, dresses, appointments, attracting the eye and ear, and drawing it away from morbid fancies and ignoble pleasures! As to the semi-nudity of feminine attire, the eye becomes accustomed to it, and that which is so general loses any evil effect upon the senses. The ladies who wear this scanty apparel look upon it all as a business matter of the most common occurrence, and as of less importance than the arrayal of a milkman in his customary frock.

The only tendency of the present style of entertainment which is to be feared is the imitation which certain ladies in ordinary society affect with regard to the favourites of the stage. Airs, deportment, high-stepping, fast-talking, and other doubtful qualifications, seem to become their *beau-ideal*; and by this means they hope to attract extraordinary attention from the other sex, as a kind of rivalry seems to exist which the lady in society hardly comprehends, but which she only can devise a method of being "in the running" by imitation! This is a grand mistake. Let every woman adhere to her deportment, above all, let her be original, and whilst, perhaps, failing in beauty of face (apparently) and grace of figure, she copies only the defects and mannerisms of her theatrical rival, and so manages to spoil her own feminine originality, by a poor imitation! Amongst the young "swells" of the period, the tendency of the stage—I mean apart from the actual representation—is to do pretty much what it always did, viz. induce them to spend money which, if it did not go in this direction, would go amongst worse people, and with less satisfaction to the owner. The bully-brawls of the olden days were infinitely less respectable and considerably more expensive than the theatrical predilections of our fashionable youth of the present day and the theatrical tone generally, although great *artistes* were then in the zenith of their fame. In these days, actors and actresses must be ladies and gentlemen in private society, as well as in their impersonations, and hence they are looked upon now, as becomes their educational and natural attainments and position, as interpreters of human passions, sentiments, virtues, and failings, holding the "mirror up to nature" nightly, and embodying the poetry of life in many varied phases. In the olden time this was confined to the *great* only; now all must be able to challenge criticism. On the whole, we may conclude that the "Dramatic Influences and Tendencies" are favourable to society, that they are ever on the

advancing track, that a nation which loves the stage is always open to the utmost refinement of civilisation, and will escape the condemnation of Shakespeare, who in his *Julius Caesar* has stigmatised the man who "loves no plays" as "very dangerous!"

Yours, &c.
LOUIS DOUGLAS.

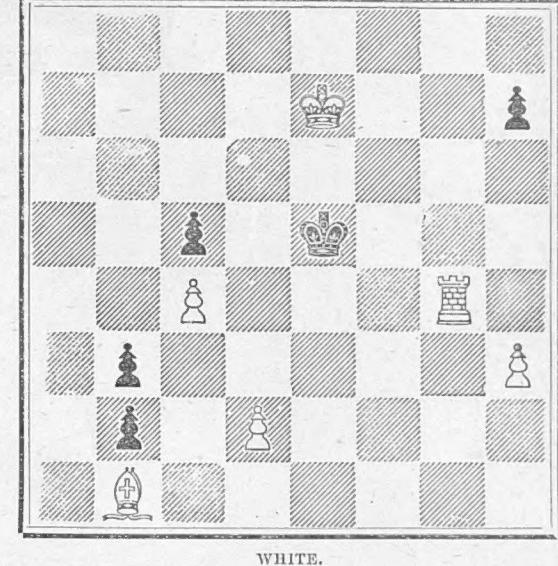
Chess.

To CORRESPONDENTS.—Contributions of original problems and games will receive our best attention.
Correct solutions of problems will be duly acknowledged.

PROBLEM NO. 26.

By Mr. J. W. ABBOTT.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in four moves.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 25.

WHITE.

1. Q to Q B sq
2. P to Q B f, mate.

BLACK.

1. K takes either Kt (dis ch) (A)

(A) 1. Anything.

2. Mates.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

R. W. L., J. S., and R. R. A.—The solutions sent are correct.
W. W.—If Black play 1. K takes Kt, discovering check, where is your proposed mate?

Played between Mr. Connell and Mr. Burn.

WHITE (Mr. C.)	BLACK (Mr. B.)	WHITE (Mr. C.)	BLACK (Mr. B.)
1. P to K 4	1. Q Kt to B 3	23. Q to B 4	23. P to Q Kt 3
2. P to Q 4	2. P to Q 4	24. K to R 2	24. Q R to Q sq
3. P to K 5	3. B to B 4	25. Q R to Q sq	25. Q takes Q R P
4. P to Q B 3	4. P to K 3	26. Q to Kt 5	26. K to B 2
5. B to Q 3	5. Kt to K 2	27. R to K B 2	27. P to K R 2
6. Kt to K B 3	6. P to K Kt 3	28. Q to Kt 4	28. R to K R sq
7. B to K 3	7. B to K 2	29. Q R to K Kt sq	29. R to K Kt sq
8. B takes B	8. Kt takes B	30. P to Q Kt 4	30. Q to B 5
9. Q to Q 2	9. Kt takes B (a)	31. P to K R 5	31. P to K 4
10. P takes P	10. B to R 3	32. R takes Kt (e)	32. P takes R
11. Q to K 2	11. Castles	33. Q takes P	33. Q to K 7 (ch)
12. Castles (K R)	12. Kt to K 2	34. Kt to B 2	34. Q tks R P (ch)
13. P to K Kt 4 (b)	13. Kt to Q B 3	35. Kt to R 3	35. R to Q sq
14. P to K R 4	14. Q to K 2 (d)	36. P to K 6 (ch)	36. K to Kt sq
15. P to K Kt 5	15. B to Kt 2	37. R to K sq	37. R to R 2
16. Kt to K R 2	16. Q to Q 2	38. K to Kt 2 (f)	38. P to B 3
17. Kt to K Kt 4	17. Kt to K 2	39. Kt to K B 4	39. Q to K sq
18. Kt to B 6 (ch)	18. B takes Kt	40. Kt to Kt 6 (g)	40. R to Q 4
19. Kt P takes B	19. Kt to K B 4	41. P to B 7 (ch)	41. R takes P
20. Q to K B 2	20. Q to Q Kt 4	42. P takes R (ch)	42. Q takes P
21. P to K 4 (d)	21. P takes P	43. Q to Q B 8 (ch)	And Black resigned.
22. Kt takes P	22. Q to Q 4		

NOTES.

- (a) The ill effects of this move appear later in the game.
- (b) Checking the advance of the Kt, and leading to a strong attack.
- (c) We prefer Q to Q 2 at once.
- (d) The correct move, breaking through Black's centre; the ill effects of his ninth move are now apparent.
- (e) Finely played.
- (f) A quiet but excellent move.
- (g) Piling the agony!

Played at the Nottingham Chess Club, between Messrs. Ward and Browne, the former giving the odds of Queen's Knight. Remove White's Queen's Knight.

[MUZIO GAMBIT.]

WHITE (Mr. W.)	BLACK (Mr. B.)	WHITE (Mr. W.)	BLACK (Mr. B.)

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THE DOUBLE-SCULLING MATCH.—THE LONDON PAIR.



H. THOMAS.



T. GREEN.

THE COMPETITORS IN THE DOUBLE-SCULLING MATCH.

SELDOM have men so young rowed for such a big stake as this, especially when they have done next to nothing previously in matches. Renforth went to the top of the tree and at the highest game at once, but then he was a wonder, and the four scullers of Thursday are not, though performers above the average, taking all things into consideration. Henry Thomas, one of the Hammersmith pair, is the oldest of the lot. He was born at Brentford, on May 13, 1847. He is 5 ft. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. in height, and weighs 11 st. 2 lbs. when in condition, being a remarkably well-proportioned fellow, with a lot of "go" about him. He rowed for the Putney Coat in 1868, and was second to W. Biffen, who won then, and has since done a great deal to keep together the first-class four of which he, Thomas, Green, and Jack Anderson are the members. Subsequently he rowed and won a match against Harding, of Blackwall, who had previously won Doggett's Coat and Badge; but he was beaten by Griffiths, of Wandsworth, in a race where Thomas certainly did not row up to the form he displayed afterwards. His other leading performances were at the Thames Regattas of 1872-3-4, when, in company with the other Hammersmith men, he won the Champion Fours. Thomas Green was born on May 6, 1849, at Hammersmith, and he won the Coat at Putney in 1871, following that up next year by winning Doggett's Coat and Badge in a style which caused him to be regarded as very likely to take a higher position than in most cases the Coat and Badge men have reached. He also rowed in the Champion Fours of 1872-3-4. His height is 5 ft. 6 in.; weight 10 st. 2 lbs.

The two Tynesiders have mostly performed away from London, and until lately little was known in the South concerning them. Robert Watson Boyd is the son of James Boyd, a well-known Tyneside oarsman, and completed his twentieth year so recently as last month. In build he rather resembles Thomas, standing 5 ft. 9 in., and weighing 11 st. His first race was with James Lally, of Gateshead, three years ago, and he won, but a second race over the same two-mile course on the Tyne was given to Lally on a foul. Last year, at the Tyne Regatta, he won the Youths' Prize, and displayed such skill and power as caused attention at once to be directed to him. At the same regatta he gained the Open Boat Prize, having for his opponent such a good man as Robert Bagnall. Boyd rowed with great pluck and determination astern of the crack, for a considerable distance, and Bagnall, holding his man rather too cheap, gave him an opportunity for gaining the race on a foul, of which he at once availed himself. In two matches with Hogarth, of Sunderland, a very fair performer, he was beaten. He was again successful at the Tyne Regatta of this year. But his more remarkable performances were yet to come. There seemed every probability that the champion four—Sadler, Bagnall, Taylor, and Winship—would sweep the board at the Leeds and Manchester Regattas; but at Leeds, on the Roundhay Park Lake, there was a great upset of preconceived notions of form, for the Fours were carried off by Boyd, Lumsden, Thornborrow, and Hill (of York), and again in the Pairs, Boyd and Lumsden beat Bagnall and Taylor, Winship and Sadler. At the Manchester Regatta, which followed soon afterwards, Boyd and Lumsden's crew virtually beat the Manchester Colleen Bawn crew in the trial heat of the Fours, but were disqualified for going on the wrong side of a buoy when they had the race in hand. The Pairs at the same regatta fell to Boyd and Lumsden, and Boyd won the Handicap Scullers' Race. At the Thames Regatta this year Boyd also won the Scullers' Race, and this wound up a good regatta season.

W. Lumsden, of Blyth, is some nine months older than Boyd, stands 5 ft. 8 in., and weighs 11 st. 1 lb. His sculling performances have not hitherto been remarkable. His first race was on the Blyth against Ralph Winship, and he won. Subsequently he won two matches against a Blyth sculler named Robson, beat Walker, of Newcastle, winning easily, and then was beaten by Williamson. In the rest of his performances he was identified with W. Boyd. A special description of the match which was rowed on Thursday over the champion course will be found in another part of this impression.

We are unable to reproduce the portraits of Boyd and Lumsden owing to the interposition of Mr. James Taylor and other guardian angels of the Tynesiders, who, three days before the race, forbade

the pair to sit, lest the operation should interfere with their chance of winning! Bagnall had been photographed and made "nervous," besides which, was there not a danger of their taking cold? Mr. Taylor did not suggest that our innocent desire for "the counterfeit presentment" of the Tyne scullers arose from a dark and diabolical wish to "gef at" the Northerners by means of photographic chemicals, but it would not have been surprising if he had thrown out a hint to that effect. He always was a somewhat divertingly conspicuous personage, given to posing himself in print and out of it; but his friends should prevent him from carrying his mentorship to ridiculous lengths. If they do not, there is no knowing where his loyalty to the rowing men of the Tyne—or rather, of his "school" on the Tyne—and "the money" may carry him. He will be packing the next Boyd, or Lumsden, or Bagnall, in cotton wool, tying up the knocker of his temporary London habitation, littering the towing-path with straw, and standing sentinel at the door of his bedchamber and over his meals, in order to deprive any ambitious photographer of the chance of "a flying shot" at his pupil's countenance.

TRANSATLANTIC SCULLING CHAMPIONSHIP.

ON Saturday, September 26, a scullers' match for the championship of America and the Dominion, and a stake of 400 dollars, was rowed between George Brown, of Halifax, Nova Scotia, and Evan Morris, of Pittsburg, U.S., over a five miles' course, with one turn, on the Kennebecasis river, near St. John, N.B., when Brown scored the victory. We extract the following account of the race from the *New York Clipper*:

"Everything passed along smoothly up to the day appointed for the encounter, continued favourable weather enabling the oarsmen to take regular practice, and each being in admirable condition on the morning of the 25th ult. Then occurred the first disappointment, and a great one it was to the thousands of people—mostly residents of St. John, Halifax, and other portions of the provinces, with delegations from Boston, Mass., Portland, Me., and other New England cities—who had congregated at the course early in the morning. A dense fog overhung the river, and after waiting a long time without apparent prospect of better things, the referee, Dr. Thos. Walker (who had also been chosen final stakeholder), felt it incumbent upon him to order a postponement until the following morning, at 7 o'clock. The following day broke unfavourably, and there was considerable falling-off in the number of people at the river-side when the hour arrived for the starting of the race. The water, however, was at that time suitable, and a start would have been promptly made had it not been discovered at the last moment that the turning stakeboats, anchored three days before, had drifted out of their proper positions. Two hours were wasted in remedying this unfortunate occurrence, and by that time a fresh breeze had sprung up, rendering the water in several unsheltered portions of the course too lumpy for the work of the day. After waiting for nearly an hour without any change for the better occurring, the Pittsburger repaired to his quarters and encouncoed himself snugly in bed, there to await further developments. Finally, shortly after two o'clock, the water having then quieted down, the order was given for the principals to appear at the starting-point, to which each responded promptly. Morris, who had won the choice of stations, taking the inside. The latter's boat, built by Robert Jewitt, Dunston-on-Tyne, Eng., was 30 feet long, 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide, and 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches deep amidships. The shell rowed by Brown was brand new, built by C. B. Elliott, weighing 35 lbs., 31 feet long, and 11 inches wide. It was a few minutes past three when the referee gave the word, and instantly the shells darted away, each man doing his very best at the beginning, and neither gaining any noticeable advantage over the other until Appleby's Wharf, about a mile on the way, had been reached, when Morris, spurring in answer to the shouts of his friends there assembled, drove the stem of his boat a few feet in front, and gradually gained until he was half a length to the good, Brown all the while working as hard as Eph. to hold his own. As the Pittsburger kept in the van, his friends took heart, and began to wager their money more freely than before, while the Haligonian's partisans were scarcely so liberal in their offers of extravagant odds, though ready to put up heavily upon their man. The oarsmen kept hard at it all the way to the buoys, before reaching which Brown had closed the gap, and indeed straightened up a little ahead. The desperate

struggle was continued every inch of the way home, the men being nearly abreast until after passing Appleby's Wharf, at which point they were dead level, and a number of even bets were made, when George commenced to edge ahead, almost imperceptibly, but none the less surely; and despite the almost superhuman exertions of Morris, who never for a moment relaxed his efforts, the champion finished one of the closest, grandest races ever witnessed less than two lengths in advance of his opponent. Time, 37 minutes."

THE SCHOONER YACHT "GWENDOLIN."

The Gwendolin was built by Messrs. Camper and Nicholson in 1870, and is one of the strongest and most substantially built vessels ever launched from the Gosport yard. Her sails are by Messrs. Lapthorne.

In 1872 she was lengthened 5 feet from the stern-post on deck, her quarters being very much *fined out*, and was much improved thereby. In the weather in which yacht matches are usually sailed, it is very seldom that the *Gwendolin* finds wind enough to do her justice. With a strong lower-sail breeze, however, she has at various times rendered a good account of the *Aline*, *Livonia*, *Egeria*, &c., and in the recent run across the Channel, from Havre to Southsea, beat the *Cetonia*.

During the past season, the *Gwendolin* started sixteen times, winning four prizes, her many mishaps and accidents earning for her the sobriquet of the "most unfortunate schooner afloat." She will always be a most formidable opponent in a strong breeze; as a sea boat she is perfect, and as a comfortable cruiser is perhaps without an equal.

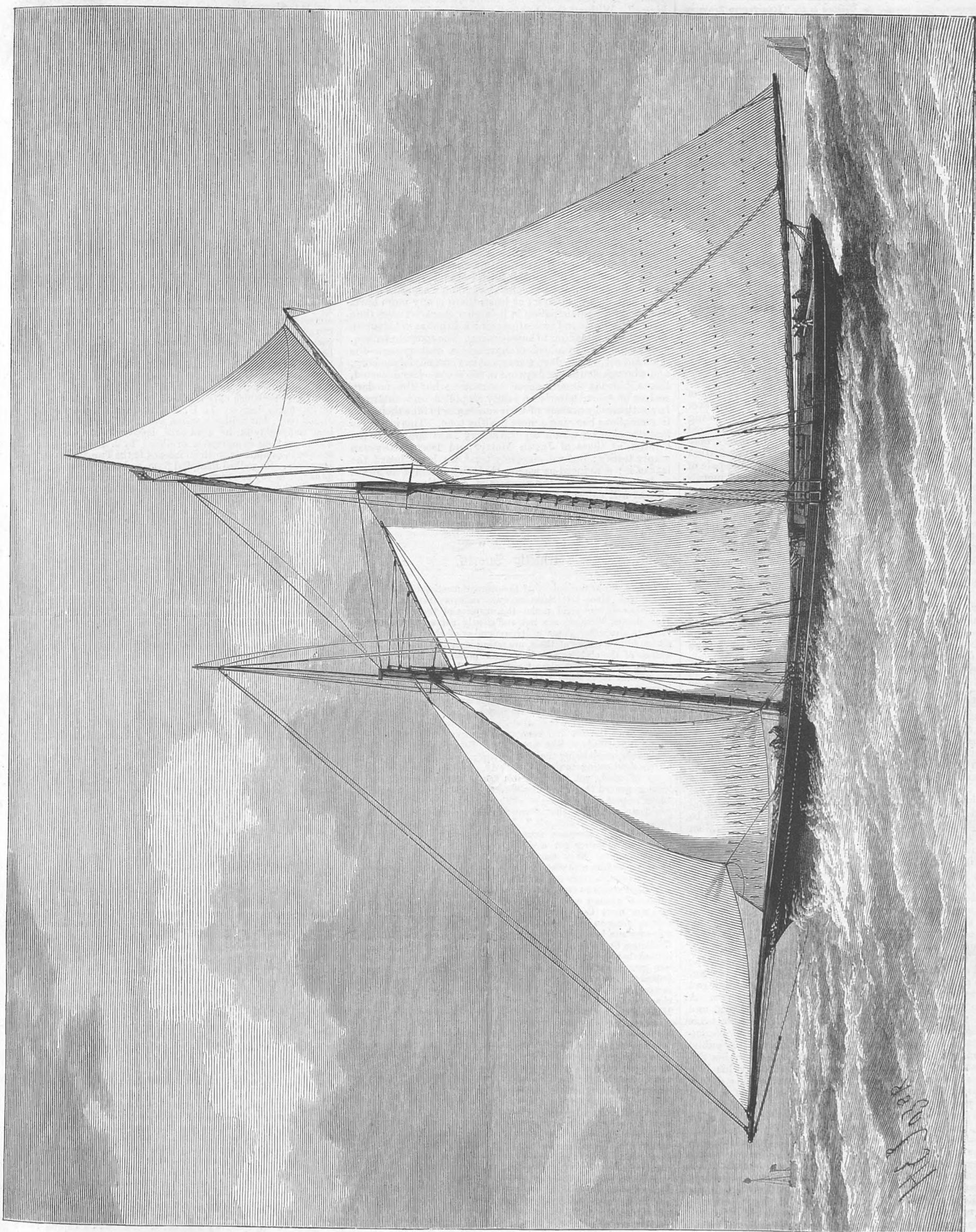
We trust that next year it may be our pleasant duty to record a more successful season's racing for Major Ewing and the *Gwendolin*. Dimensions:—

Length on load line	100 ft.
Beam on load line	20 , 7 in.
Draught forward	8 "
" aft	13 "
Tonnage, R.T.Y.C. rule	192 tons.

BOAT RACE FOR £100.—On Monday afternoon one of the last matches of the season was rowed from Putney to Mortlake for the above stake, the competitors being two watermen—Frank Kilsby and George Newman—the former hailing from Old Barge House, Blackfriars, and the latter from the Custom-house. Kilsby has been before the public for some years, and is well known as a sculler, while Newman is comparatively a novice, and has not rowed for a large stake before. They had both been in strict training for some time, and were very well and fit. Kilsby, however, appears to have gone off a little, and his rowing at times lacked the energy and dash of bygone days. A very large party assembled on the iron-boat *Victoria*, which conveyed the umpire, Mr. R. B. Wormald, of *Bell's Life*. What betting there was was at evens, Newman—who had the best station—for choice. They came away together, Kilsby, more steady than his opponent, leading slightly off the Star and Garter. By the time they had arrived at Simmond's he was nearly clear, but Newman now pressed him very hard, and in another 200 yards they were level, and Newman, keeping on the longest, led by half a length at the Point. He continued to increase his advantage, and ultimately won by five or six lengths.

THE INTERNATIONAL GUN AND POLO CLUB.—The members of this club held another meeting on Saturday last at Preston, near Brighton, when several £1 Sweepstakes, at three birds each, were decided. The chief winners were Mr. M. D. Treherne (who killed during the afternoon 44 good birds out of 52), Mr. Carrington, Captain Harrison, and Mr. Beard. Although the morning was unfavourable, the weather cleared up in the afternoon. There will be shooting every Saturday until further notice; and on Monday, the 2nd of November, the club will give a £20 prize to be shot for, at nine birds each, free of entrance fees. There will be no steeple-chases at Preston this year, but a meeting will take place in the spring under the auspices of the International Gun and Polo Club.

BROMLEY RACES.—The Autumn Cup, which has produced some capital races, and is now quite popular, has thirteen entries, the Bickley Stakes twelve, and the Nursery Handicap eleven. The course, we are informed, is now in capital order, and the fences will be well made up.



THE SCHOONER YACHT "GWENDOLIN", 192 TONS, THE PROPERTY OF MAJOR EWING.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.

All Advertisements intended for insertion in the Saturday's issue of the "ILLUSTRATED SPORTING AND DRAMATIC NEWS," must be posted so as to arrive not later than Wednesday evening, addressed to "The Publisher," 198, Strand, W.C. Scale of Charges for Advertisements on application.

NOTICE TO THE TRADE.

News Agents desirous of being supplied with "Contents Bills," are requested to send in their applications to "The Publisher," 198, Strand, W.C.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All communications intended for insertion in the "ILLUSTRATED SPORTING AND DRAMATIC NEWS," should be addressed to "The Editor," 198, Strand, W.C., and must be accompanied by the Writer's name and address, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

Dramatic and Sporting Correspondents will oblige the Editor by placing the word "Drama" or "Sporting," as the case may be, on the corner of the envelope.

No notice will be taken of enquiries as to the time of horses being scratched for their engagements, other than appears in the usual column devoted to such information.

Any irregularities in the delivery of the paper should be immediately made known to the Publisher, at 198, Strand.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post-free).

Yearly	£1 7 0
Half-yearly	14 0
Quarterly	7 0

All cheques and P. O. Orders to be made payable to Mr. THOMAS FOX, 198, Strand. Cheques crossed "UNION BANK."

THE ILLUSTRATED Sporting and Dramatic News.

LONDON: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1874.

THE manifesto of the Bishop of Lincoln against the venerable and clerical owner of Apology, to which publicity has been given and comment attracted, marks more conclusively than ever where, according to episcopal ideas, the line is to be drawn, separating racing from the numerous other sports and pastimes in which it is considered not discreditable that "gentlemen in black" should indulge. All other recreations seem to come within the pale of legitimacy, for we have never had public evidence of a remonstrance being addressed by his bishop to any country parson of hunting, shooting, or cricketing propensities, however much their practice may interfere with their "devoting themselves entirely to the work to which they pledged themselves in their ordination." Racing, however, may be said to have had full sentence of excommunication passed upon it, and to have been driven beyond the pale of forgiveness at the hands of the highest arbiters of morals in the country. "Give up all hope, ye who run horses on the Turf," would appear to be the warning fulminated against those erring pastors whose flocks are neglected for the sake of worldly pleasure in the shape of racing. Episcopal ignorance of sport may, perhaps, be pardoned the error of imagining that the fact of "training horses for the Turf" interferes with that devotion to work to which we have before alluded; but the zealous prelate might have satisfied himself on this head, had he chosen to go a little further into so profane a subject as horse-racing, by learning that the aged priest to whom he administers so severe a rebuke would not be hindered in his good works among the poor, or his weekly preparation for the pulpit, by receiving occasional letters from John Osborne as to the progress of his animals at Ashgill, or by a flying visit now and then to their training ground on Middleham Moor. The Bishop cannot think that Mr. Launde personally superintended the gallops of Apology and Holy Friar, nor that the spirit of the injunction, "to forsake and set aside as much as possible all worldly cares and studies," was contravened by the mere act of ownership of the St. Leger winner. It appears to us to be a matter lying entirely within the province of good taste, and as such not one to be canvassed publicly, by means of which far more "discredit is likely to be brought on the sacred profession, for more injury inflicted on the Church, and far more scandal caused to her members." If racing is held not to be included among the "recreations of a country parson," on the other hand his spiritual overseer must be fully aware, as he indeed confesses to be the case, that there is nothing unlawful in its practice. The "law in its present state, which needs amendment," evidently does not specify or limit the amusements to which clergy, as well as laity, must be supposed to have recourse; and whatever remonstrance of a private nature the Bishop might have deemed it his duty to address to the reverend delinquent, it was bad judgment to make public capital out of it. One wrong does not of course justify another, but it is difficult to see on what grounds any clergyman, who fills up the period allotted to recreation by field sports, cricket, rowing, or the milder amusements most popular among ladies, can hope to escape censure at the hands of his superior. A parson may hunt, shoot, row, play cricket or croquet, and be an adept in all, so long as he does not neglect his parochial affairs, and bears himself with the dignity becoming his cloth at all times and in all places. But public opinion would clearly side with the Bishop in his denunciation of a clergyman who should carry his love of sport to an excess and to the neglect of his duties. No one would tolerate for an instant the idea of a beneficed parson making a business of cricket, devoting all his time to field sports or milder amusements, in other words, mistaking his profession, and postponing all the obligations of his holy calling to mere worldly attractions. No one will be found to deny that racing, provided it does not degenerate into business, is one of our noblest, if not the noblest of sports, but its opponents cannot be induced to regard it in this light, partly because their minds are prejudiced against it, and partly because they perversely insist upon looking at its blackest side alone. Had the long connection of Mr. Launde with the Turf been marked by the circumstances attendant on too large a majority of its followers; had he made himself conspicuous by assisting at all our race-meetings, and been talked of as a spirited speculator and participator in the rowdyism and ruffianism of the race-course; the right reverend father would have had good reason for rebuking the errant pastor of his flock, and all right-thinking people would have conscientiously endorsed a verdict of excommunica-

tion. But Mr. Launde's conduct has been quite the reverse of this, and he has pursued his favourite hobby in such a way (the Bishop will forgive us for a partial travesty of his letter) as "to be a wholesome example to the people," and so as "neither to offend himself nor to cause others to offend." Running his horses under an assumed name, his has been rather the

"Secretum iter, et fallantis semita vita,"

among the more notorious followers of the "sport of kings." Without the slightest ostentation, but at the same time under no mysterious veil of secrecy, he has bred his racers year after year, not as instruments of gaming, but merely for the pleasure of the pursuit. Confining himself mostly to the North, their engagements have neither been numerous nor heavy, and the thoroughgoing honesty of purpose initiated by him and carried out by the Osbornes, has made the victory of his colours welcome upon every race-course in England. His stud has always been of the same modest dimensions, and he cannot be said to have "made handicaps his study," nor to have flown at any but the highest game on the Turf. He has regarded and practised racing in the same lofty spirit which has made such names as Falmouth, Zetland, and Peel watchwords among those to whom sport is dear; and if his career has not been marked with the same munificence and success, it was because he was content to move in a somewhat lowlier sphere, better becoming to his rank in life. Whether his connection with a training stable was an error of judgment on behalf of one who had undertaken the cure of souls, is a delicate question, into which we would not enter here. But at the same time that we regret that so unavoidable a stigma should attach to the Turf as to place its pursuits out of the pale of a clergyman's aspirations, we deny that, in the abstract at least, there is any more harm in a moderate participation in its higher characteristics than in other pastimes and recreations which do not as yet share in the reproach attaching to horse-racing. The sporting parson, as depicted by the school of novelists a century ago—the ignorant sot, whose days were spent in riot and debauchery, and who was drunk six days out of the seven—has departed, like a hideous dream, never to return; but the modern realms of sport, latterly so vastly amplified and enlarged, have attracted numbers of their successors to take their part in recreations boasting a more healthy tone. This is not the first occasion on which an "Apology" has convulsed the Church, as those of Justin Martyr and Doctor Newman amply testify: but we sincerely trust we have heard the last of it; convinced as we are that any attempt to strain ecclesiastical law for the purpose of correcting a supposed offence will cause far greater scandal to the cause of the Church and her friends than the simple fact of a few race-horses running under the assumed name of an octogenarian clerk.

Athletic Sports.

THERE can be no doubt that the autumn meeting of the L.A.C., which took place last Saturday, was in every respect the best that has ever been held under the auspices of that famous club. The Messrs. Waddell are not sufficiently conservative in their views to altogether please a large number of the members; but all are fully sensible of their unceasing exertions to promote the welfare of the club, and feel that the present highly prosperous state of affairs is due almost entirely to them. The entries for the various races during the present season show a marvellous increase on those of any former year, and where there was formerly one spectator at a meeting, there are now twenty. None but those who have filled similar positions in a club can be aware of the time and money that the Messrs. Waddell have freely expended, and liberals and conservatives alike owe them a heavy debt of gratitude. The weather on Saturday was singularly favourable, considering the time of year; for though the path was a trifle dead owing to the recent rain, and there were occasional gusts of wind, yet the splendid time made by several of the runners proved that there was not much to be complained of in either respect. In writing of the 100 Yards' Challenge Cup last week, we remarked that "we shall anticipate the success of Reay, after a hard struggle." This view proved strictly correct, as the Inland Revenue man defeated Griffin by a short six inches. The latter got a shade the best of the start, but at seventy yards, Reay was leading by fully a yard. Then, however, he began to tire, and finished "all over the course," so that in a couple more strides he must have been defeated. This was attributable to two causes, that he was a little weak from the effects of a heavy cold, and that, in his practice, he had scarcely ever run more than sixty yards. He is not likely to fall into a similar error on another occasion, and we much doubt if Griffin will ever run him so close again at this distance. The Half Mile Challenge Cup was naturally regarded as a certainty for Slade, as he had beaten Bryden on several previous occasions, while Hill was generally thought to be merely a good "handicap horse;" indeed the athletic correspondent of a weekly contemporary, who is usually well-informed in these matters, discussed the respective chances of Slade and Bryden at length, but did not even mention Hill's name! We knew, however, that he was thoroughly fit and well, and greatly improved, and, while going for Slade, stated that "we do not believe that there will be half a dozen yards between the three men at the finish," a prophecy which was exactly borne out by the result. Slade looked fitter than we have ever previously seen him, and had done far more work than usual; but he did not go off at all with his old dash, and the somewhat slow time of the first quarter (58 sec.), exactly suited Hill. Three hundred yards from home Slade was so clearly in trouble that even money was freely offered against him—the tempting odds of "3 to 1 on" found no takers before the start—and, directly they turned into the straight and began to race, Hill drew out with a clear lead, had them both beaten at once, and won cleverly, but not easily, by nearly five yards, in 2 min. 24 sec. Until the last twenty yards it looked as if Bryden would finish before Slade; but the latter struggled on with his well-known indomitable gameness, and beat him by about half a yard. We have always expressed an opinion that half a mile is not quite far enough to show Slade to the greatest advantage, and we are now satisfied on the point. At a mile and over, he has not only never been beaten, but never been fairly extended when meeting his opponents on level terms; but he has now succumbed to three different men at half a mile. The fact is that he is greatly deficient in pace, and when he meets a man with Hill's speed, he is bound to be beaten in the run in, unless he takes him off his legs in the first six hundred yards. At the same time, there can be no question that the champion was not quite himself on Saturday. We remember when Colbeck, who was as much a natural runner as Slade, and

needed as little work, was particularly anxious to wind up his career in a blaze of triumph, he trained hard for nearly a month, and the result was that he finished about last for each of three races at the Champion Meeting of 1870. We fancy that the unusual amount of work that he has done since his Irish trip, has affected Slade in the same way, and he would do well to revert to his old system of preparation, and to stick to distances of one mile and upwards, at which he has never had an equal. We do not mean by these remarks to deprive Hill of one iota of the credit of his victory, as we believe that he won on his merits, and is the better man at this distance. Never indeed was success more richly deserved. Two years ago, Hill was about the slowest man in the club, and has attained his present proud position by dint of sheer hard work, and the most rigid adherence to all the rules of training.

For some time we have been deplored the fact that there was not a single really good sprinter in the South; but the result of the 150 Yards' Handicap showed that the vacancy is at last filled up, and that in F. T. Elborough the club possesses the fastest Londoner who has been out for some years. His performance in the race in question, which he won from the 6½ yards' mark in 14½ sec., proves that he is scarcely two yards outside level time for this distance, and he comes faster at the finish of a race than any amateur we ever saw, with the exception of J. G. Wilson, the Oxford crack. The only weak point in his running is that he is a little slow for the first thirty yards, and is therefore probably better at 150 than 100 yards; but practice will enable him to get over this, and to win the 100 yards championship next year. Of the other men near scratch, Griffin (6 yards' start) and Powles (7½) won their first heats in capital style; but Lucas (5½) ran worse than we have ever seen him, and Hogg (8½) did little better. Clague (3½) showed fine speed; but his most brilliant performance by far was in the final heat of the Quarter Mile Handicap. He had six yards' start, and finished third, between five and six yards from Powles (25), the winner, who got home in 48½ seconds. Clague would thus have run the full distance in a shade inside 50 seconds; and when it is remembered that he had previously run a heat in the 150 Yards' Handicap, and also in the Quarter, the performance is almost unequalled at this distance. Powles, too, showed that he can go "all the way" in less than 52 seconds, so his recent series of successes in quarter-mile handicaps can be well understood, and he will probably find himself promoted to the twelve yards' mark for the future. W. A. F. Boulger (43), who finished second in the final heat, showed a marked improvement on his previous form, and will also have to "peg back." The One Mile Members' Handicap, for which only three came to the post, produced a very pretty finish between L. U. Burt (85 yards' start) and C. H. Mason (90); but neither man ran well, and, had the ex-champion been thoroughly fit, he must have defeated Burt in the run-in. The marvellous improvement exhibited by J. Langley, jun. (200 sec. start), completely spoilt all interest in the Two Miles' Walking Handicap. He walked in capital form, and really appeared able to go as fast as any one in the race. This was the more unaccountable as, only three weeks ago, he had 180 sec. start in the same distance at Blackheath, and could not finish in the first three. Of course it is just possible that he cannot move on grass; still it is very difficult to account satisfactorily for such a sudden alteration of form. There was a field of twenty-one for this race; but while all walked with commendable fairness, there was not a single good performer among them, and a walker of the calibre of R. H. Nunn would have matters all his own way in London just now. The China Challenge Cup only brought out a field of three; but the long and punishing finish between the older, G. F. Congreve (19½ yards' start), and A. E. Ball (34) was very interesting. First one and then the other showed a foot in advance, but Ball tired a little in the last three strides, and was defeated by a short half-yard. Congreve will now be penalised another five yards, and this extra distance ought to make the next race a pretty good thing for Ball. As, however, the splendid cup will become Congreve's property if he can win it in November, we may be sure that he will undergo a very careful preparation. Considering that Griffin (5) had been training almost exclusively for sprinting, he ran very well indeed for about five hundred yards, and had gained about five yards on Congreve when he eased up.

The 600 yards match between Slade and Bryden, to which we alluded last week, did not take place on Thursday, as the former has wisely determined to rest until the spring.

On Wednesday next W. Cousins, jun. and M. D. Rücker will walk a mile-and-a-half match at Tufnell Park, the latter to receive a start of thirty seconds. On public and private form it is a "real good thing" for the latter. The start will take place at 4.30 p.m., and admission is by invitation.

WESTMINSTER SCHOOL ATHLETIC SPORTS.

COMMITTEE: Messrs. E. V. Arnold, M. M. Rodocanachi, E. Waddington, E. H. Alington, C. F. Beeks, A. B. Cartwright (hon. sec.), J. Bailey (treasurer). Starter: Mr. Stevenson. Referees: E. A. Northcote, and H. M. Curteis. These sports took place on Wednesday at Vincent-square, Westminster, in bad weather, the morning opened with rain, which made the ground very heavy for running, and which also accounted for the very small attendance of spectators. Great care was exhibited in the arrangements, the course being roped off and well kept, and the landing for the jumping being provided with tan. The programme was rather a long one, and thus a good list of events stand for decision to-day. The following are the results:—Throwing the Cricket-ball (under 15):—C. Secretan (61 yds. 3 in.), 1; Robinson (61 yds.), 2. Eleven competed. One Mile Race (Challenge Cup) open:—Rodocanachi, 1; Bolton, 2; O. Macnamara, 3. A good start, Macnamara leading for three-quarters of a mile, when Rodocanachi came to the fore, and, running with good judgment, won by 100 yds., Bolton, who passed Macnamara 50 yds. from home, gaining second honours by 3 yds. Twenty-three started. Throwing Cricket-ball (open):—Waddington (87 yds. 2 ft. 6 in.), 1; J. Watson, 2. Five competed. One Hundred Yards' Flat Race (under 15):—Leggatt, 1; Ritchie, 2; Petrocochino, 3. Good race; won by 2 yds. Twenty-one started. Time, 12½ seconds. Long Jump (Challenge Cup) open:—Waddington (16 ft. 11 in.), 1; Alington (15 ft. 7½ in.), 2; J. Watson, 3. Eleven competed. Four Hundred and Forty Yards' Race (under 16):—Black, 1; C. Fox, 2; H. Macnamara, 3. Fox took the lead from the start, but Black, who had evidently made a waiting race of it, overhauled him 150 yds. from home, and won by 12 yds.; same between second and third. Seventeen started. Time, 62 seconds. One Hundred Yards' Hurdle Race, over eight hurdles (Challenge Cup):—Heat 1—Waddington, 1; Rumball, 2; Longtaff, 3; Watson, 4. Won by 5 yds.; dead heat for third place. Heat 2—Alington, 1; Batley, 2; Fox, 3. Won by 3 yds. Dead Heat—Waddington, 1; Alington, 2; Watson, 3. This was a capital race; won by 3 yds.; 1 ft. between second and third. Time, 15½ seconds. Pole Jump (under 15):—Druitt (5 ft. 10 in.), 1; Caiger (5 ft. 8 in.), 2. Four competitors. Three Hundred Yards' Flat Race (under 14):—Leggatt, 1; Ritchie, 2; Cobby, 3. Won by 6 yds.; 2 yds. between second and third. Time, 41 seconds. High Jump, open:—J. Batley (4 ft. 6½ in.), 1; Hyde Clarke, 2. Sixteen competed. One Hundred Yards' Flat Race (under 16):—F. Frere, 1; Barber, 2; Gamble, 3. A good race was won by 1½ yds. Time, 12½ seconds.

Rowing.**THAMES v. TYNE.—GREAT DOUBLE-SCULLING MATCH.**

So much has been written and said on the subject of a contest between the Northern and Southern school of oarsmen, and so many matches have been made, or nearly made, which have come to nothing, that it appeared as if the old spirit of rivalry between the Thames and Tyne had passed away. The hollow defeat of Robert Bagnall, the champion sculler of the North, by Joseph Sadler, made it certain that for some time at least the Thames men would be left in undisturbed possession of the sculling championship, while the Hammersmith four showed such great form at the Thames Regatta that Winship and his crew naturally did not care to engage in a match which they had previously tried so hard to get on. The Tynesiders, however, are the last men to rest quietly under a series of defeats, so finally Robert Watson Boyd, of Gateshead, and William Lumsden, of Blyth, were matched against Thomas Green and Henry Thomas, both of Hammersmith, at double-sculling. There was a delightful element of uncertainty about this match, for, as this form of competition is exceedingly rare, it was most difficult to estimate the relative chances of the pairs. In fact we do not remember any similar match since 1869, when Kelly and Sadler defeated Renforth and Taylor on the Tyne after a tremendous struggle from start to finish. Boyd is not yet twenty-one years of age, but has been very successful during a short career. He won the Sculls at the last Thames Regatta, and has also been very successful as an oarsman. Green and Thomas form two of the Thames Fours which has carried all before it for the last three years, and Green has also met with more than an average share of success in sculling. Messrs. Swaddle and Winship of Newcastle built boats for both pairs on a new-fashioned principle, constructed so as to prevent swamping. In the centre is a water-tight compartment, with a run of an inch in diameter, by which whatever water accumulates in the cock-pit is discharged into a box bored through with holes in the stroke seat. They are of red cedar, with white pine fittings, and built from the same lines; they have a slight rise forward, being 5½ inches at stem, 3½ inches at stern, extreme length, 35 feet, beam 14 inches, and depth amidships 6½ inches. Both are fitted with sliding seats. The match has scarcely created as much excitement as was expected, but, up to Tuesday night, the Tyne men were slightly the favourites. At the time of making the last deposit, however, £100 to £80 was laid on Thomas and Green.

When the umpire's boat arrived at Putney, very few people had assembled, but there was a good deal of betting, and public opinion had evidently turned in favour of the North Countrymen, on whom 6 to 4 was freely laid. They were the first to put in an appearance, and sculled quietly down the Middlesex shore, while the Thames men, who quickly followed them, kept to the Surrey side. Mr. Bush won the toss on behalf of the latter, and, of course, chose the Middlesex side. After some delay in mooring the boats from which the start was to take place, the men went to their places, and would have got off at once had not the cutter from which James Taylor was coaching Boyd and Lumsden moved about two hundred yards up the river, instead of keeping in its proper place in the rear. Of course Mr. John Ireland, the umpire, declined to give the word until Taylor came back again, and as five or six steamers took advantage of this delay to slip their moorings, and go beyond the umpire's boat, everything was thrown into confusion. At length, by the energetic exertions of Mr. Lord, the refractory steamers were induced to move back a little, Taylor took up his proper position, and a splendid start was effected at 25 minutes past 4. For about half-a-dozen strokes Thomas showed slightly in front; but then Boyd, who started at 4½ to the minute, caught him, and at the London Boat House led by a quarter of a length. This was increased to half a length at the Creek, and opposite the Point the Tyne men had drawn themselves quite clear, and as Thomas and Green kept a very bad course they lost ground rapidly, and were fully three lengths in the rear at the Soap Works. The race was now really over, and it was fortunate that the services of the umpire were not needed, as it soon became apparent that, as usual, the slowest boat on the river had been selected to carry him, and as five or six other steamers passed us, we saw little more of the race. At Hammersmith Bridge, which Boyd reached in 8 min. 49 sec., he was fully four lengths to the good, and both he and Lumsden were rowing well within themselves, while Thomas appeared a good deal distressed. Both boats got very slow in Corney Reach, and as the Thames men kept the better course, and Boyd and Lumsden lost about a length by having to go round a barge near Chiswick Church, the gap between them was slightly decreased. The result, however, was never in doubt, though Taylor's cutter was completely outpaced, and Boyd had to steer himself. Barnes Bridge was reached by the leaders in 18 min. 24 sec., and, in spite of every effort, the Southerners could not make up any of their lost ground, and were finally defeated by four lengths, in 21 min. 54 sec. A collection was afterwards made for the losing men, who, we must not omit to mention, were coached by George Drewett in an eight.

Billiards.

The following is the order of play in Taylor's handicap which will be commenced on Monday afternoon:—

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19.

2. 0 p.m. G. Collins, receives 50, v. G. Hunt, receives 100
4.30 p.m. J. W. Hart, 150, v. C. Goodwin, 175
7. 0 p.m. D. Richards, 75, v. T. Shorter, 175

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20.

2. 0 p.m. J. Bennett, 50, v. R. Wilson, 125
4.30 p.m. H. Evans, 50, v. H. Stebbing, 200
7. 0 p.m. S. W. Stanley, scratch, v. J. Stammers, 150

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21.

2. 0 p.m. F. Bennett, 25, v. C. Smith, 175
4.30 p.m. T. Taylor, scratch, v. W. Dufton, 125

In an exhibition match with Taylor last week, Stanley appeared to have returned to his best form, and making breaks of 102 (32 "spots"), 81, 80 (24 "spots"), and 55, won pretty easily. We, however, attach little importance to the play shown in these exhibitions, and are still of opinion that Taylor will win the handicap. Each game will be 500 up, and the last pair left in will play the best of three games on Saturday evening.

We learn from a "Reuter's" telegram that Cook has suffered a decisive defeat in his first match in America. His opponent was A. P. Rudolphe, and they played 400 up, at three-ball caroms, on a French cannon table, for 2000 dollars. Rudolphe, whose best break was 26, won by 126 points. At the time of writing we have heard no further particulars of the game.

MISS ISABELLA BATEMAN, we are glad to learn, is rapidly progressing towards convalescence.

The Grecian drama, *Haul and Glory*, supported by Mr. Conquest and his company, will be repeated at the Crystal Palace on Tuesday and Thursday next.

Coursing.

A CAPITAL meeting of the Ridgway Club, at Lytham, was succeeded last week by the Ashdown Park Open Meeting, so the season may now be said to have fairly commenced, and before very long we may expect a daily string of quotations on the Waterloo Cup. The weather was decidedly against Ashdown, as there was an immense deal of rain, and, on the first day, it blew half a gale of wind; still the attendance was as large as ever, and there was no falling-off in the quality of the sport. The Oaks, for bitch puppies, had secured ninety-five entries, and out of these, sixty came to the slips. Mr. Morgan, of Magnano celebrity, ran no less than four, all of which got through the first round, and Bdellium, Cent. per Cent., and Gimpy won their respective trials in excellent style. In the first ties, Mr. Morgan was by no means so fortunate, for two of his quartette were put out, in addition to which Miss Magnano had such a terrifically long trial with Tidal Basin, that her defeat at the next time of asking was reduced to a certainty. Teaser was very fortunate in disposing of Countess, who led her several lengths. We may mention that the former is the property of Tuck, the well-known maker of running shoes, and was chiefly trained by running after an india-rubber ball at Lillie Bridge! After this, surely no one need despair of securing the Waterloo Cup. Bdellium continued to win every course in grand style, and, in the final spin, raced right away from Cent. per Cent., and won with any amount in hand. The latter bitch was purchased, "all in," for £20 by Mr. Deighton, after winning her first course, and as she received £33 as runner up, she proved a remarkably cheap purchase. The Derby for dog puppies brought out forty-eight; but nothing had the remotest chance with Caius, a grand red dog by Countryman out of Dairy Lass, who is the property of Mr. Colman, of Newmarket. He has great pace, and as he was hard run in his first course, it is clear that he also stays well, so with ordinary luck, he ought to see the finish of some more good stakes. Mr. Morgan ran two fair dogs in Mandingo and Blue Ruin; but both were clearly short of work, and the latter had no chance when he met Caius in the second ties. The Craven and Uffington Cups for all ages were scarcely so interesting as the Puppy Stakes, and unfortunately several of the trials were spoilt by small, weak hares, which were killed almost immediately. The former prize fell to Mr. Morgan by the aid of Musidora, who must have had a great deal in hand, as, in the final spin, she fell heavily twice, and yet beat Discarded very easily. Bobbing Around, a kennel-companion of Bdellium, had a very easy task in the Uffington Cup, winning each of her four courses by several points. The judging of Mr. Wentworth gave great satisfaction, and Luff got through four hard days of slipping in excellent style. We append a brief return:—

THE OAKS.

FINAL COURSE.—Mr. A. De Metz ns b Bdellium, by King Theodore—Poly, beat Mr. W. Compton's bk w b Cent. per Cent., by Drummer—Gold Dust, and won.

THE DERBY.

FINAL COURSE.—Mr. B. Colman's r d Caius, by Countryman—Dairy Lass, beat Mr. Tompkin's b d Treble X, by Malt Liquor—Girl of the Village, and won.

THE CRAVEN CUP.

FINAL COURSE.—Mr. C. Morgan's bk b Musidora, by Premier—Penalty, beat Mr. E. Davey's b d Discarded, by Jolly Green—Royal Seal, and won.

THE UFFINGTON CUP.

FINAL COURSE.—Mr. Woodall's b d Bobbing Around, by King Theodore—Belladonna, beat Mr. R. P. Jones's b d Bliscorth, by Horniblow—Hercford Lass, and won.

THE ASHDOWN PUPPY STAKES.

Mr. A. De Metz ns b d Born to Luck, by King Theodore—Gipsy Lass, and Mr. R. P. Jones's w r b Jacquet, by Juryman—Janie, divided.

CASTLE KENNEYDY ST. LEGER.

FOURTH COURSE.
Sarah Bell beat Swan's Down (1, dr) | Mah beat Camp Follower
Indian Cloud beat Rachel Nixon | Simoom beat Ninon de l'Enclos
Divided.

Bicycling.**BICYCLE MATCH AT CREMORNE GARDENS.**

ON Saturday afternoon last a large company assembled to witness the competition for a cup, value £25, presented by Mr. John Baum (the proprietor of the gardens), to be contested for in a race of 50 miles' distance. Mr. Baum further offered to give a handsome money present if the distance was covered under three hours and a half. Stanton (the Bath champion) and Mr. Markham (the pedestrian) were the competitors, and it was agreed that Stanton should give his opponent 15 minutes' start. To accomplish the distance, it was necessary to traverse the course 270 times. Punctually at three Markham started, and managed to cover 18 laps before Stanton started in pursuit, which he did at a terrific pace, gaining on Markham in every lap, and gradually overhauled him in the forty-third lap. Having once got to the front, Stanton kept increasing his advantage, till, on Markham completing his 35th mile, and finding that by that time Stanton was seven miles ahead, he wisely discontinued the contest. Great sympathy was expressed for Markham, who, though only just recovering from an attack of rheumatism, and in very great pain, did his best to continue the match. After Markham gave up, Stanton went on with unabated vigour, and finished the required distance several minutes under the 3½ hours, and consequently gained, in addition to the cup, the money prize. The winner at the finish was not in the slightest degree distressed.

SURREY BICYCLE CLUB.

The handicap races of this rapidly rising club, which came off on Saturday afternoon last in the Oval, Kennington, created a more than ordinary amount of interest. The weather was fine, and the concourse of spectators, notwithstanding the counter attraction of the athletic sports at Lillie Bridge, considerable. The races were, on the whole, well contested, and the speed attained, even on the soft turf, showed how rapidly the art of bicycle-riding is progressing. There were eight races in all on the programme, which was conscientiously worked out, and all were contested with great skill and physical vigour. The most interesting, however, was the Five-mile Handicap, contested by R. T. Causton, G. Smith, H. C. Howard, and W. Biddlecomb. From the first this race lay entirely between Causton, a well-known bicycle champion, and Howard, a novice, and the struggle was most animated and full of varying fortune down to almost the penultimate lap. Causton, whose reputation was well

known, was the favourite, but Howard, a youth of eighteen, never flagged for a moment, and finally won easily amid loud and general cheering. The distance was done by him in 19 min. 36 secs., being at the rate of over fifteen miles an hour. The successful riders in the other races were T. Sabin and J. Fletcher, in the Four-mile Handicap; G. R. Oxx, in the Mile; and A. Keen, in the Youths' Mile. The prizes, which included several articles of silver plate, furnished by Mr. Benson, of Ludgate Hill, were distributed by Miss Simmonds. The band of the P division of police played a selection of music in the interval between the races. The arrangements were admirable, and reflected great credit on Mr. Howard, the clerk of the course.

BLOOD STOCK SALES AT NEWMARKET.

YEARLING, THE PROPERTY OF A GENTLEMAN.	Gs.
B c by Lecturer out of Curative, by The Cure	Mr. T. Stevens 80
YEARLING, THE PROPERTY OF A GENTLEMAN.	
B c by John Davis out of Dawdle, by Saunterer, Mr. John Nightingall	100
THE PROPERTY OF MR. H. EDGWARE.	
LITTLE JIM, 3 yrs, by Man-at-Arms out of Little Jemima, by King Tom	Mr. Mumford 110
MOATLANDS, 2 yrs, by Knowsley out of Lady Dewhurst, by Newminster	Mr. H. Roberts 165
THE PROPERTY OF A NOBLEMAN, DECEASED.	
PRINCESS CHRISTIAN, 4 yrs, by Dalesman out of Marmite, by Newcastle	Mr. Landridge 250
Ch f, 3 yrs, by Cambuscan out of Marmite, by Newcastle	Mr. Parker 30
B c, 2 yrs, by Laneret out of Roly-Poly, by Vindex	Mr. Savile 140
ROLY-POLY, br m, by Vindex out of Pastrycock	Mr. Houldsworth 20
Colt foal by Wingate out of Roly-Poly	Mr. Savile 35
WITHOUT RESERVE, THE PROPERTY OF A GENTLEMAN, DECEASED.	
ELECTRA, (1853), by Touchstone out of Laira, by Lord Stamford; covered by Paul Jones	Mr. W. Blankfon 65
DAME JANET, b m, 4 yrs, by Jufts out of Electra	Mr. Clayton 90
DANDANTS, b c, 2 yrs, by Lozenge out of Electra	Mr. Turner 75
AN HURN, b (yearling) c, by Paul Jones out of Electra, Mr. Goodliffe	Mr. Ryan 125
B colt foal by Montagnard out of Electra	

THE PROPERTY OF A GENTLEMAN.

REVERBERATION, ch c, 3 yrs, by Thunderbolt out of Golden Horn	Bought in 1200
GOLDEN SPUR (own brother to Horse Chestnut), yearling colt, by Lord Lyon out of Golden Horn	Bought in 1150

THE PROPERTY OF A GENTLEMAN.

F by Caractacus—Elegance, by Newcourt	Mr. H. Jennings 155
CORA, ch m, 4 yrs, by Uncas—Miss Marion	Mr. T. Sherwood 100

SALE OF THE NINTH LANCERS POLO PONIES.

THIS sale at Albert-gate on Monday was very attractive, owing to the catalogue including the polo ponies of this regiment, who have not been this year defeated at the popular game. Being under orders for India, compelled the officers to sell, and, as will be seen by the appended return, the prices realised were good:—

THE PROPERTY OF CAPT. CLAYTON.

PLATINUM.....	Gs. 115	BOB	Mr. H. Smith 57
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THE PROPERTY OF CAPT. GRISSEL.

LIONESS	Lord Somerset 43	JACKAL	Lord Somerset 41
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THE PROPERTY OF CAPT. H. LEGGE.

KITTEN	M.P. 61	DAIRY MAID	100
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THE PROPERTY OF CAPT. GREEN.

TWEEDLEDEE	Mr. Burnley 40	DAIRY MAID	100
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THE PROPERTY OF CAPT. GREEN.

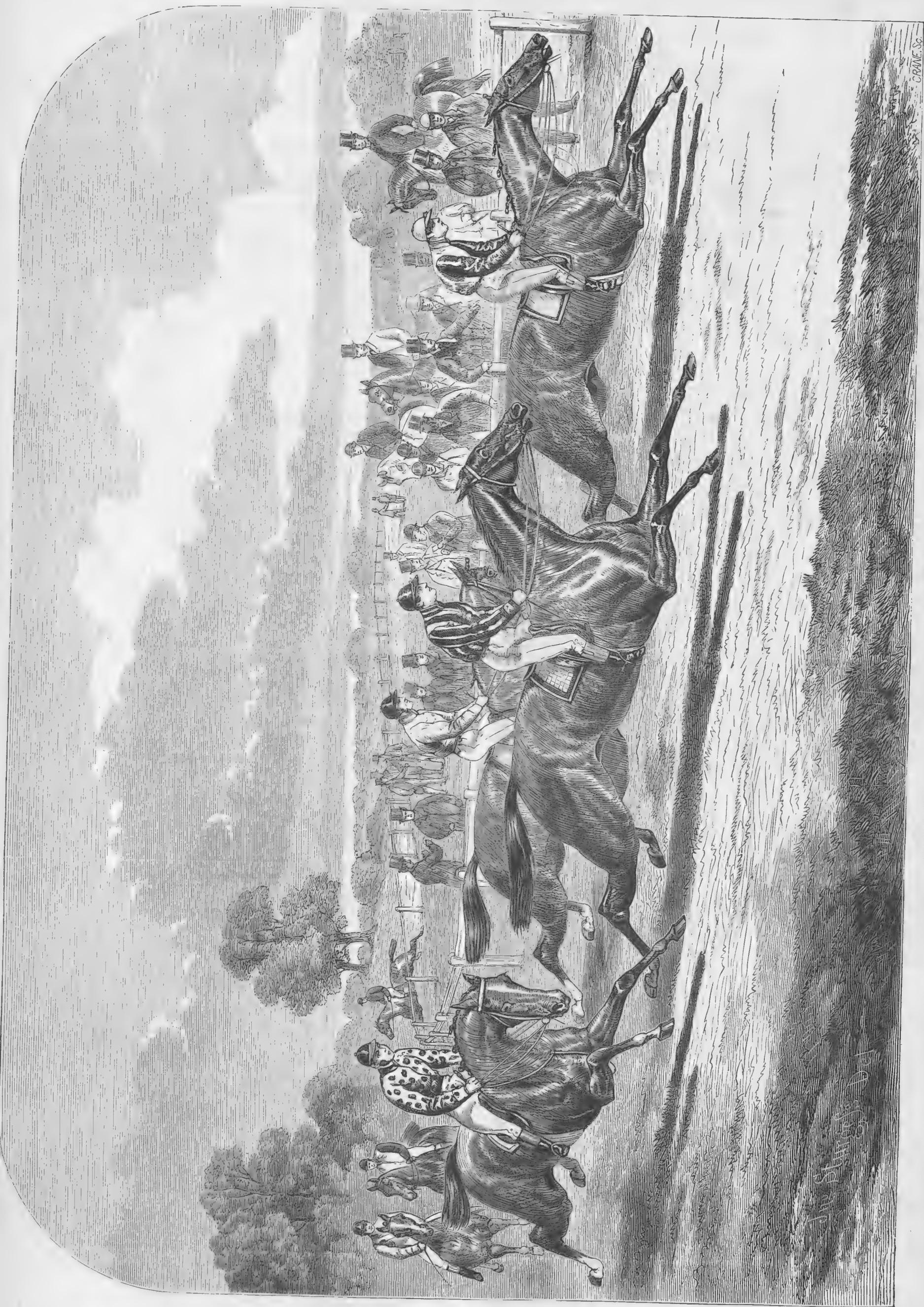
GUINEA PIG	Lord Carington 90	HOTENTOT	Mr. Perry 47
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THE PROPERTY OF R. ST. LEGER MOORE, ESQ.

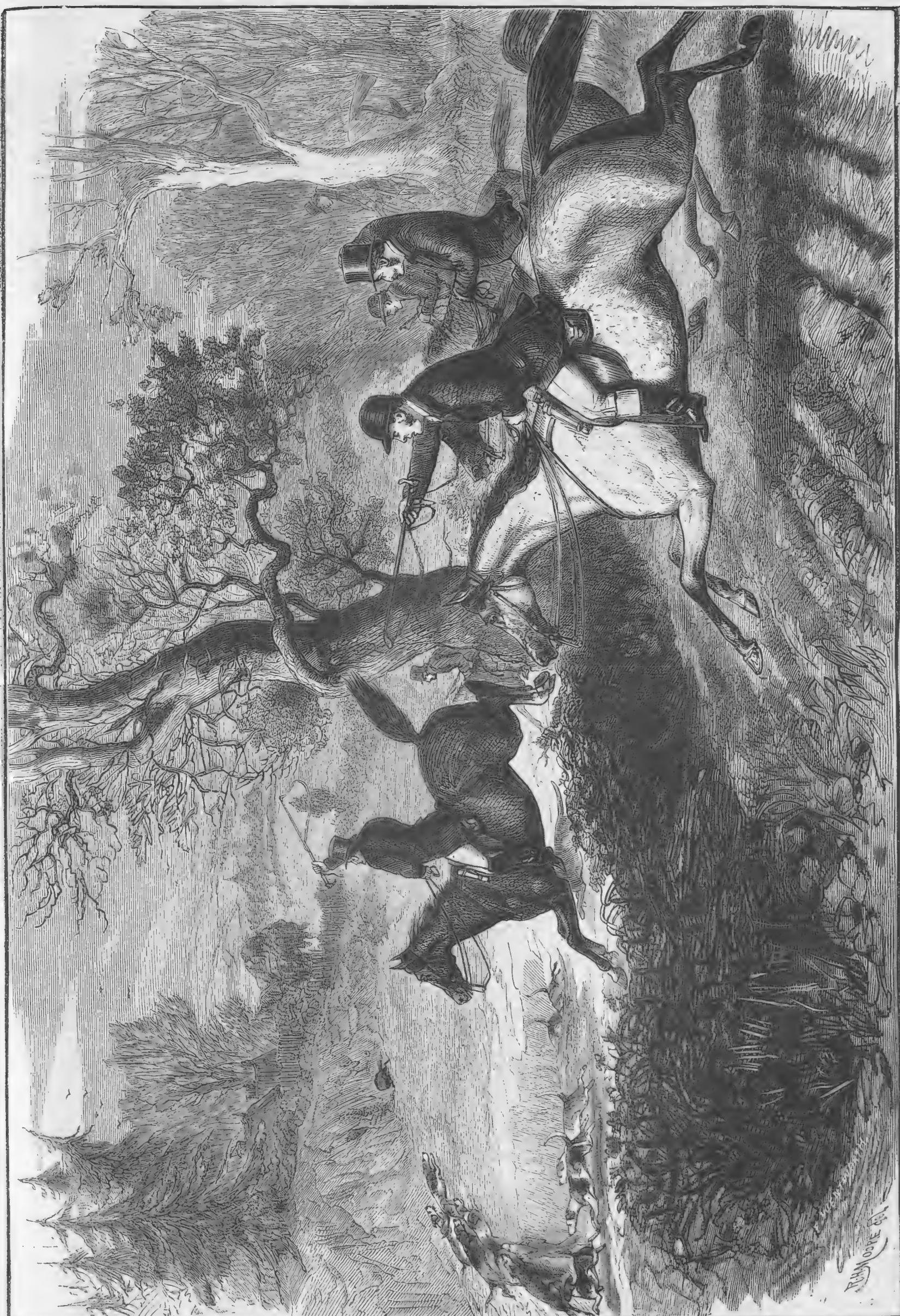
BUTTERMILK	Mr. Platt 26
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THE PROPERTY OF LORD W. BERESFORD.

MIDGE	Mr. Th



RACING SKETCHES, No. V.—Rounding the Bend.



RUN TO EARTH.

Foreign Correspondence.

PARIS, Thursday, October 15.

As is generally the case over here towards the end of the season, we have had a dreadfully dull racing week. In fact the only races worth mentioning that have occurred since I last wrote are those which came off on Sunday at Chantilly. It was a wretched day at Longchamps last Sunday week, both for horses and spectators, a cold, damp, dirty day, with a fine rain that penetrated to one's skin, pouring down steadily all the afternoon, and a nasty wind blowing from the north-east that cut one almost in two, just such weather as we got in the Solent this summer during the regattas. Last Sunday, however, at Chantilly the elements seemed decidedly inclined to favour us. In the morning there was just a suspicion of fog, but before long old Sol came grinning through the clouds, and soon dispersed it, casting his welcome rays on the verdant plain on which the course is traced, and making it look quite fresh and nice in its robe of morning dew. Nevertheless there was a very poor meet, even for the time of year. It was a very different sight to what one sees at Chantilly during the summer months when there happen to be races on there. Then you may watch thousands and thousands of Parisians belonging to almost every class of society traversing the wood, and swarming like ants on to the course, as the long special trains which arrive every few minutes from the capital discharge their living cargo on to the platform at the railway station and then steam off again to fetch another. The scene on Sunday last, however, in no way resembled this. There were just a few hundred lookers-on, pressing against the wooden barrier that marked the course, who had each paid their franc to be admitted on the ground, and who were endeavouring to get as much enjoyment as they possibly could for their money. In the enclosé du pésage, or weighing enclosure, one came upon a group or two of what the French call "sportemans" and a few energetic book-makers with their lists pinned against the neighbouring posts and trunks of friendly trees, shouting out what they would give and what they would take in their usual noisy style. There was scarcely a lady to be seen—just one or two autumn toilettes, and that was all.

The first race, the Prix du Connétable, worth £128, was won easily, with two lengths to spare, by Idem, a chestnut colt, three years old, by the Nabob out of Magenta, belonging to Count de Bertheux; with Reine de Saba second, and Premier-Avril a bad third. It will be remembered that this colt won a match for £80 last Sunday week at Longchamps, beating Wild Monarch, a bay colt, about the same age, with the greatest ease.

In the Prix des Réservoirs, value £147, Absalon, a bay colt by Stentor out of Arrogance, the property of M. Lupin, who ran second to Puyseleine in the Prix de la Cascade last Sunday week at Longchamps, arrived first, Ableige, a bay colt, two years old, belonging to Count Darn, coming in second; and Port-Saïd, a nice-looking chestnut colt, two years old, owned by a M. Willers, third. The winner arrived four lengths in advance, but only half a length separated the second and third. Absalon was claimed, after the race, by M. Stripp for £202.

The Prix des Tribunes, the great race of the day, which, however, as a great race, was not of much account, was won by a rank outsider, who was not even mentioned in the betting previous to the start. The total value of the prize was just £264, and Baron de Nesson, owner of Volontaire, the winner, was the name of the lucky individual to whom this bonne bouche so unexpectedly fell. Volontaire is by Marengo out of Snolla, and is a chestnut colt, four years old. Curiously enough, Frondeur, belonging to Count Lagrange, who surprised us all by beating Fidéline last Sunday week at Longchamps by a head, was second, and Enchanteur II., the property of Baron Rothschild, third. It was a fine race, the first horse passing the post just a head in front of Count Lagrange's representative, while the second and third were only separated by a neck. Fidéline came in fourth, two lengths behind Enchanteur II.

The Prix de la Forêt, value £207, fell to the lot of Premier-Mai, a bay colt, three years old, by Fort-à-Bras or Charlatain out of Taffarette, belonging to the brothers Jennings, the trainers. Noisette, a chestnut filly, the property of Count de Juigné, was second, M. Henry's Frivolité and Count Lagrange's La Revanche running a dead heat for the third place. There were two lengths between the first and second horse, and one between the second and third.

In the Prix de la Consolation, or Consolation Stakes, Fidéline, of course, won with the greatest ease. Mansart was second, and Crispule third. The value of the prize amounted to £152.

On Monday there were some races of no importance at Le Vesinet. Thanks to the fine weather, however, a tolerably good attendance mustered on the turf.

A serious accident occurred at the last meeting at Lyons. The ground was very slippery owing to the recent heavy rain and consequently exceedingly dangerous for steeple-chasing. Amadou, a valuable horse belonging to M. d'Evry, came to grief over one of the hedges and broke his leg; but the worst part of the business was that the injured horse fell on his jockey, who is now lying in the hospital in a most precarious state and not expected to live.

A notice, signed by the prefect, and, at the present moment, placarded all over Paris, informs the public that it is forbidden to fish for trout or salmon in the department of the Seine. Quel bon plaisir!

We have had a glorious theatrical week since I wrote last; a Tombola at the Vaudeville, revivals and changes in the cast of characters at various houses, and any number of new pieces read to managers and approved of, while others are being actively rehearsed. Parisian managers give authors far more encouragement—if not so much money—than English managers, an arrangement which, I believe, is far more advantageous to the community at large than the system generally adopted in our own country. We have had the *Princesse Georges*, with Mdlle. Talliandière, a débutante on the stage, in the part that was created and last performed by poor Desclée; Mdlle. Maria Delia, too, has debuted in *Gilberte*, taking the part hitherto performed by Mdlle. Delaporte. Both of these events passed off in a satisfactory manner. It is said, indeed, that Mdlle. Talliandière, who was discovered by Alexandre Dumas while travelling recently on the continent, promises to become a very great actress.

The newspapers are full of anecdotes relating to her, and Parisian journalists seem very anxious to find out something about her. It seems that she is known neither in Paris, Brussels, nor the French provincial towns as an actress. The writer, who signs himself *Un Monsieur de l'Orchestre* in the *Figaro*, is by no means gallant in his remarks concerning her; but then M. de Villemessant's paper is noted for its scurrilous articles. Whatever the young lady's antecedents may have been, there can be no doubt that her début was perfectly successful, which is almost equivalent to saying that she is possessed of more than ordinary talent, for the Parisians are not likely to have accepted her after Desclée, unless she was remarkably good. Another writer says that, although the piece gains in originality, it loses on the side of morality, owing to the passionate acting of the débutante, who is a Creole; but what reads strange from the pen of a Parisian

journalist is that he earnestly entreats married men not to take their wives to see the new rendering of the part.

The Tombola in aid of Mdlle. Déjazet was held at the Vaudeville on Thursday afternoon. Like all fêtes of this nature, and, in fact, like all fêtes in France, it passed off very gaily, and afforded considerable amusement to everyone present, which comprised all the cream of the fashionable world at present in town. There was naturally a good sprinkling of the dramatic and musical profession. Blavet, of the *Gaulois*, made a humorous speech; Schneider sang "La Lettre" from the *Périchole*; Paola-Marie, Galli Marié's sister, and Desclanzas sang the "Duo du Couvent" from the *Fille Angol*; Madame Péchéard gave the beggar's air in the *Timbale d'Argent*, and Mmes. Théo and Darteaux sang the duo from *Pomme d'Api*, a charming little operetta by Offenbach. One of the brothers Lionnet then succeeded in making himself amusing, as did also the famous Léonce. Among the prizes was a handsome piano by Pleyel and Wolf, which was won by the bénéficiaire, an insurance company having purchased £20 worth of tickets, and generously offered them to Mdlle. Déjazet. One of these tickets drew the prize.

The Italian opera season commenced on Saturday, with *Lucrezia Borgia*, Mdlle. Pozzoni and M. Anastasi taking the principal parts. Among the engagements at this house are the following:—Sopranos: Mmes. Pozzoni, Montesini, Jaitlet, Godefroy, and Ronzi; mezzo-sopranos: Mmes. Destin, Sarolta, Moro, Mora, and Dejean; contraltos: Mmes. Lemare, Sebel, Varni, Monte Carlo, and Vairo. The tenors comprise MM. Fraschini, Anastasi, Tamburick, Verati, Belari, Nicolini, and Fernando; baritones and bass: MM. Rinaldi, Soto, Lepers, Romani, Dauphin, Valdec, and Giraudet.

On Sunday evening, at the Italian Opera House, where the French Opera is temporarily located, Madame Adelina Patti made her appearance as "Valentine" in the *Huguenots*. It would be impossible to attempt to convey any idea of her success. She sang and acted with all her usual talent and feeling before a most brilliant audience, whom she positively seemed to electrify. Some of my readers may not perhaps be aware that just fourteen years ago Adelina Patti debuted at New Orleans, at the theatre that was then conducted by M. Bondusquie, in this self-same part of "Valentine," which she sang with so much success last Sunday evening. I am told that her dressing-room was literally transformed into a conservatory between the second and third acts. Marshal MacMahon and his wife were present, as, indeed, were all the fashionable world of Paris, and the evening must have been highly successful in a financial sense. So much the better for the emigrants from Prussia. On Wednesday, Patti appeared a second time in the same opera, and was quite as successful as on Sunday.

A few days ago the writers of musical and theatrical gossip in one or two Parisian journals caused some sensation among their subscribers by announcing that Madame Pauline Lucca was likely to be engaged at the Paris Opera. Shortly after the appearance of this statement, the offices of the newspapers in question were literally deluged with letters from abonnés and abonnées, denouncing this well-known singer as a Prussian at heart, if not by birth, and a deadly enemy to France; some of them, indeed, went so far as to say that she had "shown herself both in word and deed to be a most bitter hater of the French during the Franco-German War." I believe that the only things calculated to displease the French that Madame Lucca can be accused of are of having married a German, of having filled with remarkable success a long engagement at the Berlin Opera House, and of having nursed, with sisterly devotion, the sick and wounded during the late terrible war between Germany and France. Under these circumstances, it would, perhaps, have been as well if the French had restrained this sudden outburst of passion against a lady whose proverbial goodness and kindness of heart, without mentioning her talent, entitle her to some respect. Let us hope that Madame Lucca will show herself as indifferent to the anger of the Parisians as she is to their patronage. So long as the opera houses of America, London, Berlin, Vienna, St. Petersburg, and Moscow are, not only open to her, but anxious to engage her services, she need never beg an engagement at the Salle Ventadour, which, after all, is far from being the first Italian opera house in the world.

MM. Victorien Sardou, Gille, and Lecoq have just signed an agreement with M. Victor Koning, giving him the sole right to perform the *Prés St. Germain*, the new opéra-bouffe, in Belgium and the provincial towns of France. M. Koning reserves to himself the right to cede his claims on the piece in such towns as his company are unable to visit. He undertakes to pay the authors £8 per performance. It is said that when Mdlle. Zulma Boutifar returns from Russia she will join M. Koning's company, and will play the principal part in the opera, receiving by way of remuneration £12 per performance.

Last Saturday Mmes. Nilsson and Pasca left Paris for St. Petersburg, and were followed last Tuesday by Mdlle. Delaporte, who has also been engaged for the Russian capital. Mdlle. Delaporte gave her farewell performance at the Gymnase on Monday night. Her part in *Gilberte*, which she was playing up to the evening preceding her departure, was given after some hesitation to Mdlle. Maria Delia. Apropos of Russia, I hear that Mdlle. Krauss, whom the Parisians also denounce as a Prussian, but who is really an Austrian, recently achieved tremendous success at Moscow, in the *Juive*, being called before the curtain at the end of every act. Naudin took the part of "Eleazar," and was also very successful. In the course of November Mdlle. Krauss will proceed to St. Petersburg, where she will be singing in company with Madame Nilsson. During the same month Mdlle. Adelina Patti makes her appearance at Moscow, and at the conclusion of her engagement repairs to the Russian capital. She will be succeeded at Moscow by Mdlle. Nilsson.

The *Jolie Parfumeuse*, which has met with considerable success, will shortly, it is said, be withdrawn from the Théâtre des Bouffes Parisiennes, and will be followed by a revival of the *Timbale d'Argent*, which will be kept on the bills until *Madame l'Archiduque* is ready for performance. The part of "Molda" in the *Timbale* has not yet been given out, and there are rumours in the Passage Choiseul that a new cascadeuse fulfilling all the requirements of a modern French actress of opéra-bouffe—that is to say, who can sing tolerably well, is possessed of elegant manners, can dance the *cancan*, and does not object to wear costumes more than usually décolletés—has been found, and that the part will be offered her. The name has not yet transpired.

The following lines by Monselet, the well-known dramatic critic, to the manager of a theatre, asking for two seats, are worth transcribing:—

Si vous n'êtes de glace,
Donnez-moi double place,
Et vous ferrez complet
Mon bonheur.

MONSELET.

The Sunday concerts at the Châtelet will commence on November 8, at 2 p.m. Each series of eight concerts will comprise one concert with choruses. The first Sunday concert at the Cirque Napoléon will be given on the 18th of the present month; the programme comprises selections from the works of Beethoven, Verdi, Massenet, Sebastian Bach, Mendelssohn, and others. The literary and musical matinées at the Gaîté Théâtre are announced to commence very shortly. François Coppée, the author of one or two short pieces in verse, which have been successfully pro-

duced at the Théâtre Français, and two or three volumes of poems that have each run through several editions, has written a prologue which will be recited on the opening day—when the conférences are resumed on the Boulevard des Capucines, an event that is likely to take place within the next few days. M. Henri de Lapommeraye will deliver, every Monday, a *causerie*, lasting about an hour, in which he will criticise the new plays that have been produced during the week. The idea is novel, and promises to be successful. A young lady named Saville, said to be possessed of a remarkably fine mezzo-soprano voice, has recently been engaged by the manager of the French Opera House. She will make her *début*, in the course of next month, in the *Trouvère* and the *Huguenots*. Two dramas, one in five acts, entitled *Les Masculins*, by M. Jules Clartie, and another, in five acts and seven scenes, entitled *Les Ploënmarek*, by M. Couturier, author of *Le Coup de Jarjac* and *Le Conte d'Essex*, have just been accepted by the manager of the Théâtre Lyrique-Dramatique, which is announced to open within the next few days. It has been reported and contradicted in rival newspapers, during the past week, that Madame Fargueil has been re-engaged at the Vaudeville. I believe there is some truth in the report, although it seems that Madame Fargueil has first of all an engagement to fulfil at the Ambigu Comique before she returns to the Vaudeville. The rehearsals of *Le Chemin de Damas*, the new comedy by Théodore Barrière, are being hurried forward at the latter theatre, with a view to an early performance. M. D'Ennery, the well-known dramatic author, is confined to his bed. The Cafés-Concerts in the Champs Elysées have been closed for the season. Great efforts are being made to organise the daily concerts that are to be given in the nave of the Palais de l'Industrie during the whole time that the forthcoming Maritime Exhibition lasts. M. Ballande will resume his interesting matinées at the Théâtre de la Porte St. Martin on October 18. The subject of the first matinée will be *Horace*, that of the second, on October 25, *La Coquette corrigée*, by La Noue, while on November 1 and 8, *Le Chevalier à la mode*, by Dancourt, and *Saint-Genest*, by Rotrou, will respectively occupy the lecturer's attention. It is said that a new theatre will shortly be erected on the Boulevard between the Rue Lafitte and the Chaussée-d'Antin. The manager of the Théâtre des Arts has accepted two new pieces, both in one act, by M. Max Troil. One is styled *Les Amoureux de la Baronne*, and is in verse, while the other, which is called *Un Mauvais Quart d'Heure*, is in prose. The reading committee of the Théâtre Français are about to peruse a new piece in five acts, entitled *Gabriel Girard*, by M. Dubreuil, one of the authors of the *Belle Bourbonnaise*. The Théâtre du Palais Royal will shortly revive an operetta in one act, entitled *Danaë et sa Bonne*, words by Lefebvre and music by Sylvain Mangeant, who is at present chef d'orchestre in a theatre at St. Petersburg. The part of the "Bonne" was created by Mdlle. Schneider in 1862. The manager of the French opera has accepted a new ballet, consisting of two acts and five scenes, by MM. Jules Barbier and Méraute; music by M. Léo Delibes. The principal part will be danced by La Sangalli. A drama by M. Paul Godefroy, marine painter, has been accepted at the Théâtre de la Tour d'Auvergne. It is entitled *Un Message de la Mer*. The Burgtheater of Vienna will shortly celebrate its 100th anniversary. Last week, at the opening of the Opéra Comique in the same city, *Don César de Bazan* was produced with tremendous success. Paul Taglioni's ballet, called *Fantasca*, has just reached its 100th performance at Berlin. Last Thursday, at Lille, Mdlle. Parizzi debuted successfully as "Valentine" in *Les Huguenots*. French journalists appear to have just learned that Balfe's statue has been uncovered at Drury Lane, for they announce the fact to their readers as a piece of fresh news. The *Périchole* has been revived at the Variétés.

VESUVIUS, 4 yrs., has left Lowe's stable, and been turned out of training.

WOLVES IN FRANCE.—The Paris correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette* writes:—"Although we are a long way from winter, the wolves have already made their appearance. In the Charente a little girl was engaged in picking up chestnuts when she was attacked by one of these animals, which flew at her throat and killed her before a man called Texier, who was about 300 yards off, could come to her assistance. When Texier arrived, the wolf left Marie Favraud and dashed at him; he was unarmed, but he managed to give the infuriated beast a violent kick and to seize it by the throat. Wolf and man rolled to earth together, but the man was on top, and he held the animal firmly pinned, though the wolf had got hold of his arm. The struggle lasted for 20 minutes, when a man called Fontrobade came to the rescue, and with Texier at last succeeded in kicking and beating their antagonist to death. Texier received no fewer than 22 severe wounds in this combat, and Fontrobade had one of his fingers lacerated.

STRAY BIRDS FROM THE ZOO.—A correspondent of *Land and Water* writes that of the 16 or 18 birds that escaped from the western aviary at the Zoological Gardens on Friday week in consequence of the damage done to the glass by the explosion nearly half have been recaptured. A Baltimore oriole came back to the aviary of its own accord; a beautiful bronze-winged pigeon was brought in from the park on Saturday; a white-winged whydah bird was caught close at hand on Sunday; and a young male starling, hatched in the society's gardens this year, probably owes its life to the vigilance of the Oakley Square gardener. The bird, a purple-headed glossy starling (*Lamprocolius auratus*), of West Africa, was observed in the enclosure here, and fed by Mr. Edwards on Saturday, and, but for the over-much zeal of sundry small boys, might have been secured there and then. Dusk overtaking him, the gardener was compelled to leave the wanderer to his fate, and, Sunday bringing heavy rain, the starling was presumably safe in the tree near the lodge which he had chosen for his home and shelter. He was eventually taken in a trap by one of the Zoological Garden keepers. Among the still missing birds are two scarce weavers, two long-tailed bird-of-paradise whydahs and twocut-throat finches, besides a green dove (*Chalcolephaps indica*) from Japan. Some of these, it is to be feared, must fall victims to the late wet, uncongenial weather, and the loss of their accustomed care. Among the many providential circumstances to be recorded in connection with this terrific explosion so near the "Zoo" is the fact that the immense squares of glass in front of the reptile cages escaped fracture. There are now not far short of a hundred snakes, with perhaps fifty other reptiles, including saurians, batrachians, &c. Imagine the mêlée of escaped Carnivora! What a spectacle to greet the eyes of Mr. Holland, their keeper, on his arrival! Friday is their feeding day, too; the reptiles, one and all, were ready for their weekly repast. The three huge pythons from West Africa, approaching 20 feet in length, and a foot and a half in circumference, and cannibals by nature, would have made short work of their lesser brethren; while the crocodiles would have snapped up the small fry by the dozen, and the venomous snakes would have dealt deadly havoc with their poisoned fangs. Eight of the latter kind are among the present inhabitants of the gardens, viz.; two rattlesnakes, a puff-adder, a nose-horned viper, and three American water-vipers, all deadly; besides a young puff adder in the nursery, and an English adder scarcely to be enumerated among the dangerous ones. The last remaining cobra, and a fine rattlesnake, died lately.

REMINISCENCES OF AN OLD SPORTSMAN.

BY LORD WILLIAM LENNOX.

CHAPTER XIV.

As there is some idea of reviving tournaments upon a scale of great magnificence, it may not be here uninteresting to give an account of the one that took place at Eglinton Castle, under the auspices of the late Earl of Eglinton, on the 23rd of August, 1839. The place chosen for the lists was about a quarter of a mile to the east of the castle, surrounded by very beautiful scenery. The arena was about four square acres, around which was erected a fence, engrossing 12,000 square feet of boarding. The barrier in the centre of the ground; along which the jousting took place, measured 300 feet. Two galleries were erected, one to accommodate 1000 and the other 2000 persons; in the former were placed the private friends of the Earl and the knights, in the latter those strangers who had obtained tickets (granted gratuitously). Nearer the castle were erected two temporary saloons, each 250 feet long, for the banquet and the ball. Each of the knights had his own marquee, or, in more appropriate language, pavilion, for himself and attendants. At the request of Lord Eglinton, a large proportion of the visitors came attired in ancient costume. The morning was unfortunately very wet, and the feudal appearance of the display was sadly marred by thousands of umbrellas. In consequence of the rain, a considerable part of the ceremonial was omitted, and the queen of beauty and her ladies, instead of mounting their palfreys, were confined within their carriages. It was two o'clock, and in the midst of a drenching shower, when the procession started from the castle. The following is the list of the knights and esquires, the Marquis of Londonderry being "king of the tournament," and Lady Seymour "queen of love and beauty." The armour and costumes were of the most splendid description.

Knights.	Esquires.
Earl of Eglinton	Lord A. Seymour, Mr. Grant, Mr. G. Dundas.
Marquis of Waterford ..	[Sir C. Kent, Mr. F. Cavendish, Mr. L. Ricardo. Pages : Lord John Beresford, Mr. M. White.
Earl Craven	Hon. F. Craven, Hon. J. Macdonald.
Earl of Cassilis.	
Viscount Alford	Hon. Mr. Cust, Mr. T. O. Gascoigne.
Viscount Glenlyon	Sir David Dundas, Mr. J. Balfour.
Hon. Captain Gage	Mr. A. Murray, Mr. R. Ferguson.
Hon. Mr. Jerningham ..	Captain Stevenson, Mr. G. Campbell.
Captain Fairlie	Captain Purves, Mr. H. Wilson, Capt. Pettat, Mr. Cox.
Sir Frederick Johnstone	Viscount Drumranlig, Hon. A. Villiers.
Sir Francis Hopkins.	
Captain Beresford	Viscount Maidstone, Mr. Lumley.
Mr. Charles Lamb	Mr. R. Crawford, Mr. J. Gordon.
Mr. Lechemere	Mr. Corry, Mr. J. Horlock, Mr. J. Fane. Mr. C. Boothby.

The grand stand was filled with ladies, splendidly attired in the costumes of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. At this great centre of attraction, the knights, on entering the lists, hastened to pay their devoirs, and then repaired each to the tent erected for his reception. Several courses of jousting were run; the Earl of Eglinton, in a splendid suit of brass armour, encountered the Marquis of Waterford, and broke two spears in the conflict. The noble Earl was declared the best knight of the day, and rewarded by the queen of beauty with the crown of victory, amidst the shouts of the spectators. Other knights exhibited their prowess in similar feats; but the sports were abridged in consequence of the weather, and concluded with a broad sword combat between Mr. Mackay, the celebrated comedian, and a soldier. It was intended that there should have been a grand banquet and ball in the evening, and for these the most extensive and costly preparations had been made, but to the dismay of all the parties invited, and to the great chagrin of the noble host, the news reached the lists that the banqueting-hall and the ball-room, constructed of enormous tents, were both unfit for use and in a flood of water, in consequence of the incessant rain having penetrated the roofs and sides. On the second day, the weather continued so unfavourable that nothing could be done; but as it cleared up towards the afternoon, the renewal of the tournament was fixed for the morrow, and in the meantime the assembled multitude made merry as they might. In the ball-room a series of mimic tilts on foot took place between Prince Louis Napoleon, afterwards Napoleon III., and Mr. Lamb, who were both in armour. On Friday, the 30th, the procession and the joustings were repeated under more favourable circumstances. They concluded with a tourney, at which eight knights were engaged, armed with swords, the blows being limited to two in passing, and ten at the encounter; the only breakers of which law were the Marquis of Waterford, and another noble lord, who appeared to be plying their weapons in good earnest, when they were separated by the knight-marshall. Shortly before nine a banquet was given to 300 persons in the temporary saloon (which the rain had previously rendered useless), followed by a ball, at which 1000 were present. On the Saturday the weather was so stormy that all further sports were given up. The numbers on the ground were variously estimated at from 80,000 to 200,000 persons, some thousands of whom travelled from distances of 400 miles and upwards. There were visitors present, indeed, from every part of the United Kingdom, besides numerous foreigners. The sums circulated by those who came to see this splendid carnival must have been very great. The most extensive and hospitable arrangements had been made by Lord Eglinton for the due entertainment of his guests of all ranks, and it was calculated that these festivities must have cost the noble and munificent host not less than £40,000. The above tournament was never exceeded, except by one that took place at the Imperial Palace at Vienna, during the Congress in 1815. And here it may not be out of place to record some of the ancient tournaments, which for splendour and gallantry can never be excelled.

The tournament, particularly the grand miscellaneous conflict, was attended with so many fatal accidents that the celebration of it was for a long time prohibited in England. It was invented on the continent, and practised in France and Germany, previously to the Norman Conquest; but it was not till the troublesome reign of King Stephen, when, in consequence of the anarchy created by the hostile pretenders to the crown, almost every petty baron in turn shook off the yoke of allegiance, that the English nobility ventured to naturalise it in this country. With regard to show and magnificence, it is difficult to conceive anything more happily imagined than the ancient tournaments. They produced, like the Grecian games of old, a continual exercise and image of themselves, in places of private resort, and in the domain of every baron, by way of training the candidates to that degree of agility and skill which it was necessary to display on those far-famed theatres of honour and renown. Not a week, not a day passed in which he who was curious in these spectacles might not witness the shock of lances and the clash of swords. When the time arrived for which every young aspirant for fame so eagerly panted, when, under the auspices of the king or the nobles of the land, a grand tournament was to be celebrated, the first ceremony which took place was for each combatant to deliver in his name to the heralds and pursuivants at arms appointed for that purpose, and to hang up his achievement within the walls of some neighbouring monastery. Here it was inspected by every one who resorted as a spectator to this magnificent pageant; the merits and qualities of the champion

were canvassed, and it was customary if any lady thought she had a ground of complaint against him for her to touch his escutcheon, which was the appropriate mode of bringing an accusation and provoking an instant investigation. No one could enter the lists unless he possessed the proper rank and qualifications, unless he were approved by the judges of the field, and unless his character and actions were free from stain. The day for the celebration having arrived, the scene of combat was found prepared, together with a variety of stages for the spectators and the ladies.

The ladies constituted one of the most important parts of the scene. It is well known with what deference and worship they were regarded during the reign of chivalry. They took a deep interest in the fortune of the champion whom they honoured with their favour; they presented him with tokens, a scarf, a bracelet, a locket of hair, or, as Chaucer expressed it in his story of Troilus, "a pencil* of their sleeve," by means of which his person was recognised in all the vehemence of the conflict, clothed as he was in complete armour, and his beaver down; it was from the hands, too, of the ladies that the victor received the prize for which he had contended. The spectators being at length arranged, the tournament began. The sound of trumpets announced the arrival of the cavaliers. They advanced at a slow pace, attended by their squires, also on horseback, and followed by a multitude of pages and sergeants, whose office it was to assist the combatants, to supply them with arms, and to enforce order among the populace. The judges and heralds had their eyes continually upon the champions, prepared to observe and report with fidelity every incident of the field. A band of minstrels, furnished with every instrument of martial music, were at hand, to celebrate the acts of prowess which might distinguish the day. No sooner had a master stroke taken place in any instance than the music sounded, the heralds proclaimed it aloud, and a thousand shouts, echoed from man to man, made the air resound with the name of the hero. The combatants rewarded the proclaimers of their feats in proportion to the vehemence and loudness of their cries; and their liberalities produced yet other cries, deafening the ear with the reiteration of *largesse*. In fine, the victor was disarmed, after the dust and labour of the field, by the hands of some of the most distinguished fair, was attired in the splendid habits of peace, and conducted to a seat in the midst of illustrious princes and crowned monarchs. The concourse and parade with which tournaments were celebrated in the days of chivalry are such as almost to surpass belief. In the tournament of Beaureaire, proclaimed by Henry II. in 1174, no less than ten thousand knights, besides ladies and other spectators, graced the exhibition, with their presence and their prowess. Edward I., perhaps the ablest and most accomplished of the line of our English monarchs, was, in the vigour of his age, not less enamoured of these grand tournament displays than of the more tragic scenes of battle and death. To give a strong proof of this, it is only necessary to record that, when returning from the Holy Land, and pressed by the necessity of composing his dominions after the weak and turbulent reign of his father, he nevertheless accepted the invitation of the Count of Chalons, in Burgundy, to assist with his knights at a magnificent tournament to be solemnised at that place. The Count, it seems, had invited the King with no hospitable intention; and accordingly, in the commencement of the action, singled out his guest, dashed through the troop of his companions, and, strongly grasping his neck, endeavoured to hurl him to the ground. Edward put spurs to his horse, and hurried his antagonist from his saddle across the field; then with a single jerk loosened his hold, and tossed him upon the plain. This encounter produced a considerable degree of anger in the Count's followers; everything appeared tumultuous and stormy, and the action would presently have become sanguinary, had not the Burgundian prudently appeased his people and given up the contest.

(To be continued.)

MR. BRAYLEY has named his La Rose colt *Hereford*.

MR. ARTHUR YATES has taken a lease of a portion of Droxford from Lord Poulett.

BOSSINGTON is now the property of Mr. Tubb, who bought him from Cannon for £30.

THE three-year-old filly by Wild Dayrell out of Blanche de Nevers has been named *Lady Dayrell*.

M. LEFÈVRE.—This gentleman appeared at Newmarket on Tuesday for the first time since his confederacy with Count Lagrange.

TRAMP, 3 yrs., has been purchased by W. Reeves of J. Nightingall. We understand his new owner will put him to the jumping business.

GREENWOOD.—The objection made to this colt after winning the Heath Stakes on Tuesday on the grounds of a joust was subsequently overruled by the stewards.

AVVENTURIÈRE.—Lord Ailesbury's Cesarewitch victor incurs a 7-lb. penalty in the Cambridgeshire, her weight being thus increased to 7 st. 4 lbs., or 5 lbs. more than she carried on Tuesday.

THE CESAREWITCH TIME.—The time, taken by Benson's chronograph, is 4 min. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ sec. King Lud's time is given by the same authority at 4 min. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ sec., and that of Salvano the year preceding at 4 min. 11 sec.

DEATH OF JOHN HALLIWELL.—This well-known bookmaker expired at his residence at Croydon, on Monday night, of bronchitis, after a brief illness. The deceased belonged to the old school of professionals, and was one of the staunchest fielders in the ring; he was partial to a run with the Surrey Hounds, and a few years ago kept a hunter or two. Fortunately, he died in good circumstances, a fact which is the more satisfactory because he leaves a wife and nine children.

SEAL FISHING.—The extensive and extending use of seal-skins in various forms has several times provoked a question as to whether seals will be forthcoming in sufficient numbers to meet the increasing demand. Some time ago the public heard a good deal more than perhaps they liked to hear of the eager pursuit of these creatures. Again from the North comes a complaint of an impending crisis in the trade of the seal fishers. Seal fishing is one of the chief industries of Norway, while it is no unimportant branch of German, Danish, and Scotch trade. The desire to secure as large a take of seals as possible has led the fishers, intent on their own individual success, to encroach greatly even on the breeding season. Fears are now openly expressed from Christiania that an utter extinction of the race of seals will not improbably be the result. The alarming position of matters has at last, it would seem, awakened the self-interest of the chief fishers, who are now desirous of legislative restrictions. Since, however, so many nationalities are concerned, an international agreement will be necessary, and this it may take some time to bring about. Already some steps have been taken, it is said, with much approval in Norwegian circles, by the owners of the port of Peterhead to bring the matter under the notice of the British Government. Unless the fishers can, however, in the meantime come to some understanding among themselves, intervention may come too late. We hope that the matter may be deemed of sufficient importance to induce the governments concerned to take it up, and both in the interests of humanity and of trade endeavour to bring about a close time for seals.—*Globe*.

* Pencell, from *pennoncel*, "a small streamer."

WILLS AND BEQUESTS.

THE will and codicil, dated November 14 and December 16, 1873, of William John Hutchinson, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, have been proved at Newcastle by William Hunter and Hilton Philipson, the executors, the personal estate being sworn under £200,000. The testator bequeaths to the Newcastle-on-Tyne Infirmary £25,000; to the Newcastle Dispensary, £10,000; to the under-mentioned institutions in Newcastle-on-Tyne, Northumberland, and Durham—viz., to the Boys and Girls' Orphanage, and to the Institution for Granting Annuities to Governesses and other Ladies in reduced Circumstance, £3000 each; to the Prudhoe Home at Whitby, £2000; to the Ingham Infirmary at South Shields, £1500; to the Deaf and Dumb Institution, the Blind Asylum, and the Ragged School, £1000 each; and to the Children's Hospital, the Lying-in Hospital, the Indigent Sick Society, the Eye Infirmary, and the Jubilee School for Boys, £500 each. The testator states that, as it is his desire by the preceding charitable bequests to exhaust his pure personal estates and effects, which by law is the only property that can be given by will for charitable purposes, he declares that if such pure personal estate should be found either to exceed or fall below the legacies so bequeathed, the respective legacies for such charitable purposes are to be increased or diminished accordingly, and he directs, so far as he can do so by law, legacy duty on all such legacies to be paid out of the residue of his property in exoneration of the legatees.

The will, dated August 7, 1873, of Dame Julia Rich (widow of Sir Henry Rich, Bart.), late of No. 16, Curzon Street, Mayfair, who died on August 8 last, was proved on the 25th ult. by Mrs. Julia Anne Elizabeth Roundell, the niece, Colonel Frederick Henry Rich, and Henry Richard Tonkinson, the executors, the personality being sworn under £14,000. The testatrix bequeaths £5000 to her nephew, Algernon Edward Tollemache; an annuity of £100 to her said niece, Alice Georgina Tollemache; and the residue to her said niece, Mrs. Roundell. She also appoints, under the will of her late husband, certain property in which she had a life interest, to several of his nephews and nieces.

The will, dated June 6, 1867, of the Rev. James Edward Austin-Leigh, Vicar of Bray, Berks, who died on the 8th ult., was proved on the 29th ult. by Cholmeley Austin-Leigh, the acting executor, the personal estate being sworn under £35,000. The testator bequeaths to his wife, Mrs. Emma Austin-Leigh, all his ready money, including money at the banker's, and his furniture and household effects for life, and at her death such furniture and effects are to be divided between all his children; to his eldest son, the said Cholmeley Austin-Leigh, £1000; and other pecuniary legacies to members of his family and servants. He appoints all the money under his marriage settlement, and gives the residue of his personality, to his eight younger children.

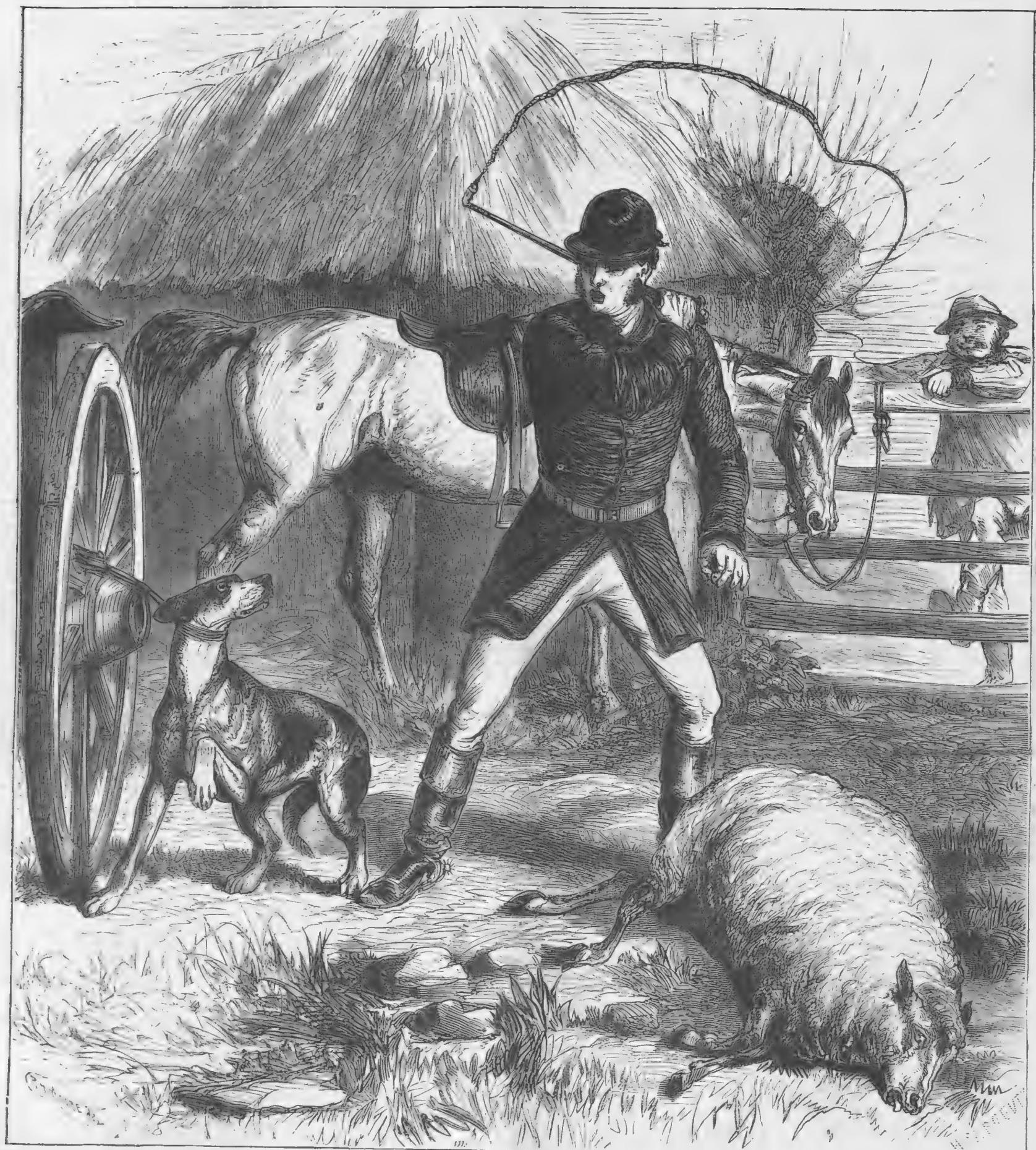
The will, dated June 13 last, of Charles Gilpin, M.P. for Northampton, late of No. 10, Bedford Square, who died on the 8th ult., was proved on the 10th inst. by Mrs. Anna Gilpin, the widow, Samuel Morley, M.P., and Thomas Beggs, the executors, the personality being sworn under £10,000. The testator bequeaths to his wife all his furniture and effects, and a pecuniary legacy of £200, and legacies of fifty guineas to several persons. All his real estate is to be sold, and the income of the proceeds and of the residue of his personal estate is to be paid to his wife for life, and after her death to his daughter, Mrs. Anna Crouch Pigott, for life; and at her death the capital is to be divided between his said daughter's children.

The will of Mrs. Elizabeth Ann Divers, of Dover, has been proved under £40,000.

The business of the principal registry of her Majesty's Court of Probate, which, since January, 1858, has been conducted at Doctors' Commons, will, in the course of a few days, be transferred to Somerset House; and thither for the future must mourning relatives and friends repair, if they would ascertain to what extent they are beneficiaries under their testators' wills. The history which attaches to Doctors' Commons is familiar to our readers, and the time, not to mention money, it took to clear away the obstacles to its reformation is not forgotten. It was in the year 1830 that a Commission issued from the Crown to inquire into the practice and jurisdiction of the Ecclesiastical Courts, and not until the year 1857 was the Act passed abolishing their testamentary jurisdiction and vesting it in her Majesty. Since January 11, 1858, the day on which the Act came into operation, the business, and consequently the staff, of the registry have been increasing in gigantic proportions until the present buildings, which from the onset were never worthy of the use to which they are appropriated, have become utterly unsuited for the transaction of the important business which appertains to the registry.—From the "Illustrated London News" of Oct. 17, 1874.

CAPT. MACHELL bought Hautboy a few days ago for 820 guineas.

THE OWNER OF "APOLOGY."—Some correspondence has lately passed between the Bishop of Lincoln and the Rev. J. W. King, vicar of Ashby-de-la-Laund, and owner of *Apology*, winner of the St. Leger, respecting the latter gentleman's connection with the Turf. The Bishop has just forwarded to "Mr. Launde" the following strong remonstrance on the subject:—"Sir.—It is with very great regret that I see, from the public papers describing the races at Doncaster on the day before yesterday, that my former remonstrance with you has been of no avail. I had hoped that you might have been induced, at your advanced age, by regard for your own spiritual welfare as well as for that of others, to listen to my earnest exhortations. But, with much sorrow, I perceive that you have shown no signs of remorse for your offence in bringing discredit on your sacred profession and in inflicting injury on the Church of which you are a minister, and in causing scandal to her members, by training race-horses for the Turf instead of devoting yourself entirely to the work to which you pledged yourself at your ordination, when you promised 'to forsake and set aside as much as possible all worldly cares and studies,' and 'neither to offend yourself nor to cause others to offend,' and to be 'a wholesome and godly example to the people,' especially to your own flock. You are the incumbent of two benefices in this diocese—Ashby-de-la-Laund and Bassingham—and the latter of these, on which you do not reside, is largely endowed; and you hold these two pastoral cures on the condition that you will promote the welfare of the Church and not bring disgrace upon her and do her grievous wrong. In your reply to my former letter you referred me to your solicitor, and implied that you would resist the exercise of my authority. Whether the law in its present state, which needs amendment, may enable a bishop to correct such offences as these, I cannot say with certainty, but I had rather appeal to your own conscience without resorting to legal proceedings, and I now entreat you once more, solemnly and affectionately, in the name of our Blessed Lord, who is not only our Saviour but our Judge, and in the name of the souls for which he died, either to resign your pastoral cures or else to relinquish a course which seems to me to be altogether at variance with the sacred obligations by which you are bound as a clergyman of the Church of England. I am, Sir, yours faithfully, C. LINCOLN."—The Rev. J. W. King, vicar of Ashby-de-la-Laund.



"READING THE RIOT ACT."

FOXHUNTING IN IRELAND SOME YEARS AGO.

BY RALPH NEVILLE.

(Continued from page 707.)

THE RUN WITH A BAILIFF.

THE annual change of quarters, in the usual routine, brought our regiment to Connaught, and I was sent on detachment with my troop into the locality hunted by the "Blazers," a capital pack of foxhounds then kept by Mr. Persse, I believe altogether at his own expense. The "Blazers"—a sobriquet they acquired from the dash and what in those days would be called devilment of the worthies who had the honour of being enrolled in the club—were a class of men not to be met with even in Galway now. Their ancestors' hospitality had left them embarrassed, and the famine, coupled with the Encumbered Estates Court, cleared most of them from the land, while those who weathered the crisis have learned prudence from the example of the manufacturers and tradesmen who bought their neighbours' properties. At the time I write of, the Galway gentlemen were the pleasantest, most agreeable and hospitable set of fellows it was ever my good fortune to have dwelt amongst. There was fishing and shooting sufficiently good to gratify any one who took delight, as a real sportsman does, in finding his game by his own exertions and judgment and the training of his dogs. And we military men were invariably made welcome to cast a fly on all lakes or rivers, and to wander over the moors and mountains as we pleased; for the person who would then venture to ask a Connaught squire to let his shooting, or insinuate that he sold his game, would be

considered guilty of an unpardonable insult, which he might be expected to atone for by a meeting. During the summer I fully enjoyed the sports of the season, and proceeded on the 4th of October to the celebrated fair of Ballinasloe, to purchase hunters accustomed to the fences of the country, which were generally stone walls of from four to six feet high, in preparation for the foxhunting. Amongst the young men who were constant visitors at our mess and at "head-quarters," was Maurice Blake, who, from his pleasing manner and sprightly disposition, soon became a general favourite. Taking an opportunity one night after dinner, he confidentially assured such of us as might dread being unpleasantly annoyed by legal proceedings "that in Galway matters were managed in such an agreeable way as to render the edicts of the civil law courts perfectly innocuous. The high sheriff," he told us, "never, during his term of office, ventured to appear at any public social meeting; he was perfectly ostracised for twelve months, by the rules of society and precedent, and the only occasions on which embarrassed friends could venture to shake hands with him were on Sundays, or when, protected by summonses, they attended the assizes to be sworn on the grand jury. But," he continued, "Old Carlo Bodkin has been sub-sheriff for over twenty years in succession, and during that time no gentleman has ever been arrested in the county, unless through his own stupidity. Carlo," he added, "is as true as steel, and exceedingly reasonable. All he expects, from visitors like you, are his legal fees on any writs lodged against you, whenever it suits your convenience to remit them, the transaction being privately arranged by some mutual friend." The sub-sheriff was a hearty, jovial fellow, of over fifty, with a ruddy complexion and white hair; he never asked anyone to dine with him, for fear of being called inopportunist upon by some determined debt hunter to

arrest one of his own guests; but he frequented the tables of those who might be "in trouble" without hesitation, as the gate-keepers and servants were always prepared to prevent any intrusion on his privacy. As a matter of course, we occasionally entertained him. He was passionately devoted to foxhunting the only pleasure he could not resist was a run with the "Blazers," and for this he was prepared to chance all risks; but the precautions he had recourse to, for the purpose of saving his "tributaries" and avoiding responsibility, always proved sufficient for his protection.

Since I became accustomed to them, I consider stone walls much more easily dealt with than any other fence, and hence I particularly enjoyed the chase in Galway. The well-trained hunter takes his jump with his hind legs well tucked up, and, touching the top of the wall with one of them as he passes over, generally carries himself and rider in safety to the other side. Should any bungle occur, the man is almost always thrown out of danger's way, while the steed, falling on grass or tilled land, is seldom injured.

There was a favourite meet near my quarters. I rode there with my friend Maurice, and met a joyous and splendidly mounted party at the covert side. There was plenty of laughing and joking, without the vulgarity of modern "chaff," and as each new comer joined, there arose some cause for merriment. Presently the sub-sheriff appeared in sight, and there was a general exclamation of "Here comes Carlo," followed by the query, "Is any one in danger?" When within about a hundred yards of those assembled, the sub halted, and in a loud voice requested to know if "Hyacinth Daly and Denis O'Donnell were present, as he wished to have some chat with them." There was a general burst of laughter, and an almost universal response, "Absent," when he rode forward to join in a general hand-shaking. He wore large, green

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also advised the readers of this journal to have nothing to do with. His running in the Goodwood Stakes last year showed him to be not moderate, and if Wm. Goater could not discover him to be a good horse at Findon, it was impossible that any amount of galloping given him by Dover at Irlsley could make him a good one, independent of there being nothing in his appearance to recommend him. With such public credentials no judge of racing could think of backing him, and yet numbers did so; while he, as well as Mornington, was the "tip" of some of the "know-nothings," who now-a-days affect to advise the public. People said Mr. Goum was "had" when he laid the big bet of 10,000 to 400 against him; but the result proved that he knew more about the horse than the Leviathan bookmaker who took the wager. When seen in the enclosure, he was pooh-poohed by all the good judges, whose remarks about him were in unison with the opinion I expressed of him last week. Only those on horseback had an opportunity of seeing either Mornington, the Truth gelding, Louise Victoria, Gamecock, or the Manton pair, as they were not saddled in the enclosure. This is not right, as I have more than once previously remarked, for the public should have been afforded an opportunity of seeing the condition of all the competitors. In another column will be found the betting at starting, and a full description of the contest, which, in the opinion of John Osborne and other jockeys who rode in the race, was run at a wretched pace, proof of which is indeed furnished by no fewer than nineteen of the competitors passing the Bushes almost in line. In descending the hill into the Abingdon Mile bottom the Truth gelding took a lead of a length, which he held until coming up the ascent to the winning post, where Aventurière gradually gained upon him, and, running with indomitable gameness, secured the judge's *flat* by a head, the German horse, Gamecock, finishing third, three lengths off, while the French horse, Peut-être, was fourth, with Tichborne, Royal George, and Laey next. Louise Victoria ran prominently until just after passing the Bushes, when she gave way almost in the exact spot she declined last year, thus proving that she is no stayer, and that I was right in surmising that "she would not improve on her previous running." Royal George, who it was averred by the horse-watchers had slightly the best of the trial with Aventurière, also ran well to the Bushes, where he died off, showing that he is no such gluton at a distance as many of the public imagined, and it was fortunate for Manton that they had so good a "second string" as Aventurière to rely upon. Glover, although he expressed himself anything but pleased at having to ride Lord Ailesbury's filly instead of Royal George, rode her in that careful yet resolute manner which has already given him such a succession of splendid victories, as he won the Metropolitan on Royal George, the Chester Cup on Organist, the Goodwood and Brighton Stakes on Scamp, the Lewes Handicap on Lemnos, and the Oxfordshire Stakes and October Handicap on Wild Myrtle. In an early number of this journal I gave the advice to "follow Glover," a hint that must have largely benefited all who made use of it. The victory of Lord Ailesbury's fine filly was most popular, and the noble lord and the winner received quite an ovation as he led her back to the enclosure to weigh in. Aventurière's success makes the nineteenth three-year-old victory in the thirty-five years the Cesarewitch has been run for, and only on five occasions did any of them carry a heavier weight than Aventurière, viz., Faugh-a-Ballagh, 8st; The Baron, 7st 9lb; Lecturer, 7st 3lb; Julius, 8st; and Corisande, 7st 12lb; while Weatherage and Dulcibella each carried 6st 11lb, or 1lb less than the winner. Considering how highly the Truth gelding must have been tried, it is a great triumph for Aventurière to have given him her year and 14lb. But bred as she is by Adventurer out of Cantine, by Orlando, her dam Vivandière by Voltaire, so much was to be expected. This is "Waxy on Blacklock," and it is not a little singular that the breeding of "Waxy on Blacklock," as he is by Wamba, a son of Touchstone, out of Truth by Lambton, her dam Battery by The Fallow Buck, out of Flash of Lighting by Velocipede, the success of this combination of blood, has been very remarkable in producing stayers, last year's winner, King Lud, being also bred in the same manner. The race, I had almost omitted to state, was run in such a hazy state of the atmosphere that only those on horseback saw anything of the contest until the competitors had neared the Bushes, when it was apparent that only Aventurière, the Truth gelding, and Gamecock were in it, and they finished as above recorded. It is stated that the time of the race, as taken by Benson's chronograph, is 4min 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ secs; but this announcement must be taken for what it is worth, as it was quite impossible for the strongest Voiglander to tell to the second when the flag fell on the Ditch denoting the commencement of the race. Salvano's time, carrying only 5st 7lbs, was 4min 11secs,

that of King Lud, carrying 7st 5lb, was 4min 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ secs, which clearly shows that Aventurière's time was not correctly taken. The penalty incurred by Lord Ailesbury's filly for the Cambridgeshire is 7lb, which raises her weight to 7st 3lb, while the Truth gelding for running second incurs a penalty of 3lb.

Little notice was taken of the two remaining races, which were a Selling Stakes and the Juvenile Handicap. The former fell to Sir Frederick, who beat his five opponents easily enough, but nevertheless was not considered worth the 200 guineas he was entered to be sold for, so the fund benefited nothing by the race. The Juvenile Stakes did the Ring good service, as everything was backed but the right one, which proved to be La Sauteruse, who, although carrying 8st 6lb, was, by the fine riding of Fordham, landed the winner by three-quarters of a length, a result that sent the backers of Horse Chestnut for the Middle Park Plate home rejoicing.

On Wednesday the sport was poor indeed, and had it not been for the Middle Park Plate, few would have cared about going on the Heath. The horses engaged in and the contest for the great Blenkiron prize were, however, worth journeying a thousand miles to see, and the interest occasioned by the running of so many crack two-year-olds caused the attendance to be almost equal to that of the Cesarewitch day, and happily the weather was brighter than on Tuesday, enabling every move in the race to be seen from start to finish. Vivacité opened the ball in a minutet with the Grand Duchess, who could not, however, go the pace of Count Lagrange's filly, on whom odds of 4 to 1 was freely betted. In the Handicap that followed it was a nice point in the betting between Macadam and Julian, but the pull of 9lb in favour of the latter gave a pretty clever victory to the neat little son of Julius and Money spinner, a mare, well bred as she is, that has not yet done Prince Battyaun much service. Count Lagrange threw in for the second time for the Select Stakes, which La Courteuse won for him, beating Peeping Tom, who did not look quite wound up, very cleverly. And the splendid riding of Fordham gave the Count a third victory, as with Blenheim he just pulled through by a head for the second Welter Handicap, although carrying the welter weight of 11st 4lb. Next came the Middle Park Plate, when the enclosure became crowded with those anxious to "take stock" of the several intending competitors, the number of whom was soon announced on the telegraph board to be twenty-four, and all of whom, with the exception of Semper Durus, Perplex, St. Leger, and Killiecrankie, were subjected to the inspection of the *équerristes*. Of the public horses, the most famed was of course The Holy Friar, who looked well trained, but hardly so blooming as at Doncaster. Galopin also looked well, but was on the big side, notwithstanding all the work he was reported to have done, and it was doubtless the fear of his not being quite wound up that caused his retrogression in the betting. Galopin has thickened and improved a great deal since he was last seen at Ascot, but he still hardly looks like a stayer, nor indeed does The Holy Friar, who is so deficient in length, and is besides a trifle high on the leg. Telescope also looked thickened and improved, and both Horse Chestnut and Balfre were in the very pink of condition, as was the beautiful Chaplet also, while Woodlands also looked considerably improved since he was last seen at Brighton. Of the "dark" division, Plebeian, the colt by Brother to Stratford out of Makeshift, and Per Se attracted most attention, and, justly, for three better-looking youngsters have seldom been bred. Plebeian, who is by Joskin out of Queen Elizabeth, by Autocrat, her dam Bay Rosalind by Orlando out of Eloquence, by Velocipede, was most admired for his fine size, length, and general symmetry. He is a bright bay, with four white legs, and is quite an Orlando in appearance, but much thicker than that horse's stock usually were, the only thing to find fault about him being his feet, which are large and shelly. The Makershift colt is a large, lengthy brown colt, very truly shaped, but he too has large feet, and is so big that he wants time. Per Se is different to both, being a low, thick-set, lengthy filly, good at all points, but perhaps a little cobby. Punch, who is by Pompier, and was bred in France, is a large coarse colt, a dirty chestnut in colour, with the near fore and off hind fetlock white. He is very backward, but is a fine goer, and will some day be as powerful a horse as Mortemer. Chester is a very neat colt by Macaroni out of Poetry, and Insolent, who is by Carnival out of Voltella, and was bred in Hungary, is a weak-leggy horse, that is sure to improve with time; as will Chartist also. The latter is by King John out of Guile, by Barnton, and wants time. Most of the others that were in the enclosure are so well known that I have no occasion to describe them. The large investments made on The Holy Friar brought him to 2 to 1, while the *furore* to get on Woodlands—why or wherefore I know not, except that he had

been recently purchased by Mr. F. Swindells—brought that chestnut son of the deceased Nutbourne to the extraordinary short price of 3 to 1. Galopin was steady at 6 to 1, and the heavy investments made on Plebeian after he had been seen brought him to 8 to 1, while Punch met with support at 10 to 1, and at a 100 to 9 a good deal of money was invested on the Danbury filly, Per Se, who it was known had given Knightly some 24lb on a trial. And the rumours of what Plebeian could do with Strathavon and Tangible, and the Makershift colt with Bonny Blue Eye and Bell of Scotland, were quite astounding. The race, which will be found described elsewhere, was one of the finest ever witnessed, resulting in the head victory of Plebeian over Per Se, who had a like advantage over Galopin, while close up with the trio beat The Holy Friar, though not placed by the judge. The three placed horses ran together on the left side of the course, while wide to the right was The Holy Friar, who looked all over the winner until within a stride or two of the chair. That the three placed horses, as well as Holy Friar and Horse Chestnut, who finished next, are an extraordinary good lot of two-year-olds, there can be no question; but considering that Galopin was scarcely wound up, he is by far the best of them, as he was giving the winner 7lb, and the second 10lb, and was yet only beaten by a head. Per Se got locked in between Joskin and Galopin, and Cannon lodged an objection against the winner for a "cannon," which was, however, overruled; but not in time to prevent the backers of Plebeian shifting a good deal of their winnings for fear of an adverse decision. Many grand contests as there have been for the Middle Park Plate, this was the finest, and the fame of it will cause this race to be carried on elsewhere, should the stewards of the Jockey Club commit such a suicidal act as to discontinue it, which I believe is their present intention. Should they continue in the same mind, it will be the making of the new Bristol Meeting, as Mr. Frail will hardly let slip the opportunity of doing credit to the memory of the founder of the race by perpetuating it on the fine course, which through his exertions has been established in the vicinity of the capital of the West.

On Thursday the ball was set rolling at 12.30, and the punters kept putting down the pieces with varied success until 4.15.

In the opening event, the Flying Welter, they picked first and second in Oxonian and Bordeaux; and they were also right in standing Skotzka, who beat her three opponents easily for the Bretby Stakes. On the next race they tried in vain to back Galopin, who was only opposed by Trésorier, a thick, useful colt, but who had no pretensions to beat the flyer. For the Post Sweepstakes they caught it over Craig Millar, who was the first beaten, and the race fell to Mirlifore, with Earl of Dartrey next; nor were backers more successful for the Autumn Handicap, for which they put it down on Morocco and Xanthus, but the winner turned up in the Colomba filly, a stable companion of the former. For the Oaks the fielding was very strong against Aventurière, and the result proved the fielders to be right, as after a fine race La Courteuse beat the Cesarewitch winner by a neck.

The Selling Race was a clever win for Beacon; and Berryfield won the succeeding event, which restored the balance to the backers. Next came the race of the day, the Queen's Plate of 300 guineas, when the wagering became fast and furious, the fielders never tiring in taking 5 to 4 that Lily Agnes did not win, and right they were, for after an extraordinary fast-run race, the pace being made by the French filly Christiana, to serve her countryman, Peut-être, the crack of Yorkshire was worn down, and M. Aumont's horse achieved a very clever victory, amid a great scene of excitement.

There was no move of importance on the Cambridgeshire, a full review of which I shall furnish next week, when I hope to be as fortunate in selecting the winner as I was in last week giving Aventurière alone for the Cesarewitch.

BEACON.

Calendar for Week ending October 24.

MONDAY, Oct. 19.

Eltham.

TUESDAY, Oct. 20.

Presteign.

Croydon Oct. (1st day).

Newcastle Autumn (1st day).

Coventry (1st day).

Curragh Oct. (1st day).

THURSDAY, Oct. 22.

Curragh Oct. (3rd day).

Gloucester (1st day).

Bromley (1st day).

FRIDAY, Oct. 23.

Gloucester (2nd day).

Bromley (2nd day).

Northallerton (1st day).

WEDNESDAY, Oct. 21.

Croydon Oct. (2nd day).

Newcastle Autumn (2nd day).

Coventry (2nd day).

Curragh Oct. (2nd day).

SATURDAY, Oct. 24.

Northallerton (2nd day).

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